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News Tracker ... What's new with old news

States

Snowmobiles in Yellowstone: Attorneys for snowmobile manufacturers, winter resorts and other tourism-related ventures have asked a federal judge in Cheyenne, Wyo., to permanently lift a snowmobile ban in Yellowstone and Grand Teton national parks so the businesses can have peace of mind about their survival.

U.S. District Judge Clarence Brimmer heard the request Thursday from the businesses, joined by the states of Montana and Wyoming.

Their lawyers said action by Brimmer would prevent another federal judge, in Washington, D.C., from reinstating the 2001 ban and creating economic uncertainty for the area.

Cross burning: Two teenagers accused of burning a cross in the front yard of a black family in Covington, Ky., pleaded guilty Thursday in federal court.

Matthew Scudder, 18, of Hebron, and James Foster, 19, of Independence, pleaded guilty to violating the family's civil rights, intimidating the family and to aiding and abetting a juvenile involved in the crime.

The two face up to 10 years in prison at sentencing, scheduled for Dec. 16.

Ocean City murders: Recently unsealed documents provide gruesome details about the husband and wife who murdered two Virginia tourists in Ocean City, Md., in 2002.

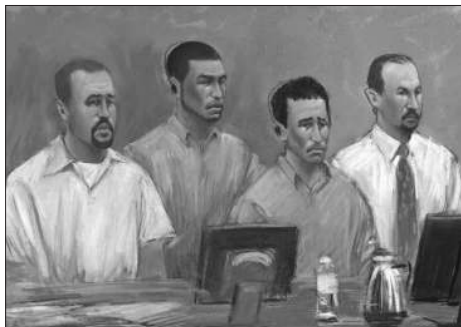
Erika Sifrit, who was convicted of first-degree murder, told the Secret Service that her husband, Benjamin, wanted to kill her parents, grandparents and a wealthy aunt, according to the documents, which were obtained by WBAL-TV.

She said her husband hoped they would inherit the money and discussed meeting in Argentina.

In the recently released documents, Erika Sifrit recounted how her husband ordered the couple to get naked and asked them, "Do you want to die?" She also told investigators that she ordered her husband to shoot the couple, who had locked themselves in a bathroom.

A Montgomery County jury found Benjamin Sifrit guilty of second-degree murder in Crutchley's death but acquitted him of Ford's killing. Sifrit was sentenced to 38 years in prison in July 2003.

Michael Jackson case: Michael Jackson allegedly stayed off a child molestation accusation in 1990 with a \$2 million payment to the son of an employee at his Neverland



Detroit terror trial: Karim Koubriti, far left, and Abdel-lah Elmaroudi, far right, shown in federal court in Detroit in 2003, had terrorism charges against them thrown out Friday at the request of prosecutors, who said the prosecution was overzealous in trying to obtain a conviction in the wake of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks. U.S. District Judge Gerald Rosen said the two, as well as Ahmed Hannan, second from right, must stand trial again on charges of document fraud. Farouk Al-Haimoud, second from left, was acquitted on all charges.

Ranch, according to a television report.

The television news magazine by "Date-line NBC," which reported the payment in a segment to be broadcast Friday night, did not disclose its source of information.

In the segment, retired Santa Barbara County Sheriff Jim Thomas, now an NBC news analyst, said his office investigated Jackson in 1993 in connection with one boy's claim and came upon the second accusation.

World

Terror warnings: The U.S. and Australian embassies in Jakarta, Indonesia, warned on Friday of possible terrorist attacks here and urged their citizens to exercise extreme caution in public places such as bars and hotels.

The U.S. mission said its employees had been advised to avoid large hotels. It warned other Americans in Indonesia to "observe vigilant personal security precautions, keep a low profile in public [and] vary their daily routines."

North Korea train accident: A North Korea-

an elementary school and an agricultural college in Seoul that were destroyed in a deadly train blast in April have reopened in newly constructed buildings, North Korea said.

Opening ceremonies were held Wednesday at the two schools in Ryongchon, where train wagons at a railway station exploded on April 22, killing 160 people and injuring an estimated 1,300, according to some estimates. The blast was believed to have been sparked by a train laden with oil and chemicals that hit power lines.

Business

California air pollution: Exxon Mobil Corp. paid \$8.25 million to Southern California air quality regulators to settle dozens of violations at two facilities in the Los Angeles basin, which has the worst air quality in the nation.

The payment Wednesday was the third-largest in the history of the South Coast Air Quality Management District, officials said.

Stories and photo from wire services

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THIS WEEK'S SPECIAL

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U.S. to give land at Yokonama back to Japan

BY VINCE LITTLE
AND HANA KUSUMOTO

Stars and Stripes

TOKYO — The U.S. military has agreed to return about 939 acres of base land in Yokonama back to the Japanese government, the largest land return in more than 30 years on mainland Japan, officials confirmed Friday.

Officials from both countries also agreed that Japan would build 700 additional housing units at the U.S. Navy's Ikego housing area instead of the 800 units agreed upon last year.

U.S. Forces Japan officials confirmed the agreement Friday, stating in a news release they would take the "necessary actions" to expedite the return.

The Japanese Defense Facilities Administration Agency pre-

sented the agreement to Yokonama city on Friday.

Both Japanese and U.S. officials said the agreement remains subject to approval by the U.S.-Japan Joint Committee and the handover would begin once the areas are no longer needed.

The areas include the Fukaya Communication Site, Tomioka Storage Area and a portion of the Kamiseya Communication Station, along with a segment of the Ikego Housing Area and Navy Annex in Yokonama City. Kamiseya's housing and support facilities would not be returned until their use has been exhausted. USFJ officials said they'd monitor their need for the Koshiba Petroleum, Oil and Lubricants Depot, which also may be returned at some point. The land represents more than 70 percent of U.S. military land in Yokonama city.

The Negishi Dependent Housing Area will be returned to Japan after the construction of housing and support facilities at Ikego, USFJ officials said.

The American half of the Facilities Assessment Panel was led by Army Col. Larry McCallister, USFJ director of logistics. The panel is a mix of U.S. and Japanese agencies that's conducted talks over Kanagawa Prefecture, housing-construction requests and land-return issues.

The panel reached the agreement Thursday during its third official meeting, said Air Force Col. Victor Warzinski, USFJ spokesman.

"It's been part of a long-term discussion," he added. "At our second meeting in July last year, we talked about our requirement of additional family housing down in Yokosuka. We laid out ex-

actly what we wanted and where, and we also talked about various land returns. Basically, we said we would return this land when it's no longer needed, on the premise that local governments understand the need to construct additional housing for our military people.

"We don't project future requirements for those facilities. As we complete our requirements, there are no future plans to use the lands in question."

Yokonama City Mayor Hiroshi Nakada suggested last month that the Japanese government should build fewer housing units at Ikego.

Warzinski said the demand for new housing construction at the Ikego residential area was dropped by 100 units "in response to local sensitivities."

"We agreed to reduce it based

on a request from the Yokohama mayor," he said.

Zushi city officials are opposed to additional housing at Ikego and say the construction breaks a 1994 promise between the national government and Kanagawa prefecture that would prevent additional facilities. However, the national government claims that since the housing will be built on the Yokohama side of the area, they're not breaking the promise.

"I have submitted a bill to enter a legal action against the Japanese government to the city council and there is no change in our existing policy," Zushi city Mayor Kazuyoshi Nagashima said Thursday.

No timetable has been set for return of the lands, Warzinski added.

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P-3 Orions get rare land patrol in Afghanistan

BY JENNIFER H. SVAN

Stars and Stripes

MISAWA NAVAL AIR FACILITY, Japan — Ten sailors from this northern Japan base returned in late August from a four-month deployment in landlocked Afghanistan, where they slept in tents and battled sandstorms and dry heat with soldiers, Marines, airmen and coalition forces.

Though welcomed by the other services, the sailors could not avoid the obvious question: "There's no water here. What are you guys doing here?"

Since the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks, members of Misawa's Fleet Maritime Patrol Mobile Operational Center-P-3 Orions planes they support, have been moving farther from water as their mission grows.

Once a stalwart submarine hunter, the P-3 maritime patrol aircraft is taking on new roles, said Lt. Jg. Kevin Harrington, officer-in-charge of Misawa's mobile operational control center.

The P-3 Orions flying over Afghanistan represent the most inland missions of maritime patrol aircraft since World War II, Harrington said.

"Maritime patrol aircraft have expanded their role to support the global war on terrorism," he said.

At home, sailors with Misawa's operational control center support P-3 squadrons from the United States who deploy to Misawa on six-month rotations. They also support P-3s in distant locations, including Kuwait and the Philippines.

In Afghanistan, the Misawa sailors set up a remote tactical support center for the P-3 Orions at a joint Air Force-Marine base in Kandahar.

They worked 12- to 15-hour days, seven days a week, setting up shop in what's locally known as the Taliban's "Last Stand Building" — a structure built apart during fierce fighting after Sept. 11 by a U.S. Air Force Joint Direct Attack Munitions and patched up by the Army.

The sailors' job was to provide the P-3 aircrafts with communications, com-



Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

Sailors from Misawa's Fleet Maritime Patrol Mobile Operational Control Center-Western Pacific pose for a photo during their deployment to Kandahar, Afghanistan.

mand, control, computer and intelligence support, Harrington said.

"Any type of connectivity between ground and air assets," said Petty Officer 1st Class James Cox, an aviation warfare systems operator.

The sailors could not disclose how many P-3 Orions they supported, nor where those planes were assigned, due to the nature of the ongoing mission.

The aircraft were supporting Marine and Army ground forces, Harrington said.

The Honolulu Star-Bulletin sheds some light on the P-3 Orion mission in Afghanistan, reporting that since Sept. 11, the aircraft have been used to gather intelligence and provide surveillance and reconnaissance for commanders in the Arabian Sea and on the ground in Afghanistan. The equipment on board the four-engine, turboprop planes, the newspaper says, can help troops on the ground gain situational awareness by transmitting digital images and other data via e-mail messages to commanders by satellite.

The Misawa sailors, with their expertise and 18,000 pounds of electronic and communications equipment, ensured the P-3 crews were able to perform their jobs adequately and safely. They conducted flight-safety briefings and debriefings, among other tasks, and made sure the crews checked in hourly, said Petty Offi-

cer 1st Class Kyle Wilkinson, aviation warfare systems operator.

"We keep track of them hourly or sometimes less, depending on how hostile the environment is," he said.

Added Cox: "If something happened to the aircraft, we know where they're at" to alert search-and-rescue teams.

More challenging during the mission was maintaining the equipment in the hot and dusty environment, the sailors said. They built makeshift shade for outdoor gear and constantly cleaned it.

"The sky was orange and it was all dust," Cox said.

Though the deployment was mostly work, there was some excitement away from the job. Wilkinson found a viper coiled in his tent, Harrington got his photo snapped with Fox News personality Gerald Rivera and Cox remembers nearly dropping his boxed dinner when 120 mm rocket flares were set off to illuminate an area outside the base perimeter.

There also were serious, somber moments: On Memorial Day, the sailors and other servicemen at Kandahar remembered five soldiers attached to a unit there who were killed by the day prior.

"Those types of things really drove home why we were there," to fight the war on terrorism, Harrington said.

E-mail Jennifer H. Svan at: svan@vpsriepes.osd.mil

Pacific airman killed in Iraq

A Pacific Air Force airman based in Alaska has died in Iraq, the first airman from the Pacific theater to be killed while serving in Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom, according to an Air Force news release.

Airman 1st Class Carl Anderson Jr., 21, of Georgetown, S.C., died Aug. 29 in Mosul, Iraq, after his convoy hit a roadside bomb. Two other PACAF airmen were injured.

Anderson was deployed with the 732nd Expeditionary Mission Support Group; he was a transportation operator with 3rd Logistics Readiness Squadron at Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska.

Staff Sgt. Michael Helmick and Airman 1st Class Jacob Sutton, also assigned to the 732nd, were injured. Helmick sustained severe injuries and is in stable condition in Germany after undergoing surgery, according to the release. Sutton suffered minor injuries and has since returned to work.

Anderson entered the Air Force in December 2001. A memorial service was to be held Friday at Elmendorf.

French ship visits Guam

The Navy on Guam will welcome the French Frigate Vendémiaire to the island for a three-day visit Sept. 10-12. Commander, Naval Forces Marianas officials announced in a news release Friday.

The 3,000-ton surveillance frigate equipped with a Panther helicopter, is based in Noumea, New Caledonia, and is part of the French permanent naval fleet in the Pacific Ocean. It has a crew of 10 officers, 36 petty officers and 40 junior sailors.

The Vendémiaire conducts numerous missions, including sea patrol, police, navigation, projection of deterrent forces and evacuation of French citizens.

U.S., Thai Navy finish drill

The Royal Thai Navy and the U.S. Navy completed an at-sea bilateral, missile exercise Thursday, about 100 miles south of Guam, according to Commander, Naval Forces Marianas officials, who called the exercise a success.

During the event, a Royal Thai Navy Fokker 27 aircraft launched an unarmed AGM-84 Harpoon anti-ship missile and hit a floating target, said Navy officials in a news release.

A U.S. Navy aircraft then fired an armed Harpoon to sink the target, a converted barge, in about 2,000 feet of water.

Both military representatives were to leave Guam on Sunday.

From staff reports

Policy change will leave retirees with new bill

Starting Oct. 1, former military will have to pay to fly to routine medical visits

BY JENNIFER H. SVAN
Stars and Stripes

Starting Oct. 1, military retirees and their family members in Japan, Korea and Guam will have to foot the bill for commercial airfare to routine medical appointments.

Pacific Air Forces announced the policy change in a memorandum this week to PACAF military treatment facility commanders, underscoring that military retirees from all branches, and their dependents, still are eligible for priority and urgent aeromedical evacuation on military aircraft.

"Retirees are part of our military family and are doing what we can to help them understand the issue and to work on their behalf to help them keep up their routine medical care," said Lt. Col. Kelley Couter, PACAF chief of manpower, personnel and financial management.

The memorandum states that commercial tickets for retirees living or traveling outside the United States to routine medical appointments, or non-emergency care.

The change comes almost a year after the Air Force retired its fleet of C-9A Nightingales, a jet dedicated to aeromedical evacuation.

With orders showing they're travelling for medical reasons, retirees could fly on the C-9, which in the western Pacific shuttled passengers to routine medical facilities once or twice a week. After the plane was taken out of service in fall 2003, those through the western Pacific not needing in-flight medical care were allowed to fly commercially at government expense. Now all aeromedical evacuation requirements based "meaning that only patients requiring in-flight medical care are moved via military aircraft."

Active duty members and their dependents covered by Tricare Prime are eligible for military flight commercial travel for routine medical care, said Frank McEvoy, Tricare Pacific marketing representative. Military retirees overseas, however, are eligi-

ble only for Tricare Standard, which does not entitle them to commercial transportation to a medical facility.

The PACAF Surgeon General's office footed the bill for retirees after the C-9s were retired. But PACAF officials can't authorize fund-

ed travel for retirees and their family members for routine medical care. The regulations govern travel and transportation allowances for members of the uniformed services. The regulations pertain to government travel and transportation allowances.

"It was a decision by the PACAF surgeon general, knowing that a lot of the care is further away than in [U.S. Air Force Europe], where people can drive," Couter said. "He wanted to bridge the gap."

"They made a command decision to continue funding in the transition year," said Stephen Clutter, PACAF spokesman. "They really aren't authorized to do that. They were leaning a little bit too forward in doing

Clarifying medical travel for retirees

Movement Precedence Categories developed by the Patient Movement Requirements Center during peacetime:

■ Routine: Non-emergency/urgent care that does not require in-flight medical care and the specialty is not available locally.

■ Priority: Requires in-flight medical care. Applies to a patient who requires prompt medical care not available locally. Normally movement begins within 24 hours but may vary

that."

The change doesn't affect active duty members and their dependents but civilian employees could be affected, PACAF officials said, though they declined to discuss it officially because the regulations still are being drafted.

Couter said for fiscal 2004, which ends Sept. 30, PACAF estimates it will have paid \$350,000 to transport retirees and their dependents on commercial flights for routine medical care. That's out of a total of \$3.9 million "for everybody in the command for the different services," Couter said. "I can't say a funding issue, it's the policy."

As of the end of August, PACAF had paid airfare for about 300 retirees and non-medical-at-

based on the patient's condition.

■ Urgent: Requires in-flight medical care. Applies to a patient who requires movement as soon as possible to save life, limb or eyesight, or to prevent serious complications of injury or an existing medical condition. In almost all urgent aeromedical evacuation cases, the driving factor is that the medical expertise or equipment is not available to treat the patient in a local medical facility.

— Staff report

tendants of retirees — someone, for example, accompanying and carrying bags for a retiree with a broken leg. An estimated 16,000 military retirees live in Japan, Korea and Guam, according to PACAF officials.

Retired Chief Master Sgt. Herman Timirella from Misawa, Japan, thinks lower-ranking retirees will be especially impacted by the policy change. They're "on a very limited income and some of our local retirees have some serious medical problems," he said, noting about 150 military retirees live in the Misawa area. The local medical group takes great care of them, but there are limitations on what they can do locally.

Retirees already pay for lodging and other per diem costs

when traveling for medical care.

Carl Howard, a retired Air Force master sergeant living near Yokota Air Base, Japan, said he knows retirees who need to see specialists at Tripler Army Medical Center in Hawaii, although "for my personal self, the cost is fairly reasonable, he said, co-payment for those over 70 is about 10 percent.

Tinnirella recommends military retirees who are permanent residents of Japan, and don't fall under the U.S.-Japan status of forces agreement, enroll in the Japanese health care system. The cost is fairly reasonable, he said, co-payment for those over 70 is about 10 percent.

"I'm enrolled in the program just as a full back," he said.

PACAF officials noted that U.S. Transportation Command now is reviewing a proposal to assign retirees a higher space-available category on military aircraft if they have medical invitations on file. Retirees are Category 6, the lowest priority for seat assignment in space-available travel.

"We think it will, if approved, encourage retirees to try to make routine medical appointments," Couter said. "It would give them another option, and we think it will help."

Some retirees, however, noted that Patriot Express — the military's chartered commercial service — is to be eliminated over the next two years in South Korea and Japan, as well as most military bases around the world, in effect limiting opportunities for space-available travel.

Jennifer H. Svan at svan@stripes.osd.mil

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Iwakuni

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- Information, Travel and Tours Office grape picking and winery visit to the Miyoshi winery. Call DSN 253-4377.
- Single Marine Program Hamada Beach and Aquarium Trip. Call DSN 253-3891.
- Club Iwakuni Sunset Garden open mike night 7:10 p.m. each Sunday in September. Call DSN 253-3727.

Monday

- Information, Travel and Tours Nishiki River sightseeing and tram ride. Call DSN 253-4377.
- Bowling 1-9 p.m. Call DSN 253-465.
- Last day main outdoor pool is open. Call 253-4966.

Sasebo

Monday

- Golf Tournament from 7:30 a.m. at Mikawachi Golf Course. Call DSN 252-3588.
- Kids Duathlon at Hario Fitness Center. Call DSN 252-8945.

Labor Day events

- Nine-Pin No Tap bowling tournament at noon. Call DSN 252-3634.

Atsugi

- Bingo: Doors open 5:30 p.m.; games start at 7 p.m. Cash prizes up to \$1199.
- Fall Into Fitness Fun Run 5k run. Registration is at 6 a.m. in front of Halsey Gym. Run starts at 7 a.m.
- Tours Office has an all-day Disney trip. The last chance to register is Saturday at 5 p.m. Cost \$12 for transportation. Buy tickets at park. Save money on tolls, transportation and parking. Call for departure/return times.
- Free admission at all Atsugi pools through September.

Call DSN 264-3574 for information on these events.

Yokota

Sunday

- The Enlisted Club all-night bash, with dancing, music and other activities. Call DSN 227-8820.

Monday

- The Sakana Pool's 7th Annual Dog Days of Summer, set for Monday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., will be the outdoor facility's final event of the year. Dogs get free treats and can cool off in the pool. Donation of money or food for the Stay Pet Adoption Center gets you a free T-shirt. Call DSN 225-6133.
- The base library will be open Monday 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Call DSN 225-7490.

Zama

Sunday

- Tours to Kamogawa Sea World, the New Sanno brunch and Harajuku. Call DSN 263-4671.
- A King of the Hill Tourney will be held at 11 a.m. in the Zama Bowling Center. Call DSN 263-4780.
- A Customer Appreciation Day Barbecue at 1 p.m. in the Sagami Depot Sagami Lounge. Call DSN 268-4954.

Monday

- Tours to Hakone Yumessun Hot Spa and Tokyo Disneyland/DisneySea. Call DSN 263-4671.

Misawa

- Beach Bash 4-9 p.m. at the base beach. Event includes free food and drinks, music, adult and children's games and a fireworks display from 7:30 to 8:15 p.m. Free transportation is available to and from Rocky's Roost and the North Area Shopette from 3:30 to 9:30 p.m. Glass items and coolers are not permitted. Call DSN 226-9378.

— Staff reports



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MILITARY UPDATE

Tom Philpott

Reserve pay problems eased, official says

Army, DFAS have worked to fix errors pointed out by GAO, official says

Systemic pay problems that added to the hassle of mobilization for tens of thousands of Army Reserve and National Guard members since Sept. 11, 2001, largely have been corrected and should not hit the next rotation of reserve forces into Iraq and Afghanistan, says a senior defense pay official.

Patrick T. Shine, director of military and civilian pay services for the Defense Finance and Accounting Service in Indianapolis, says the Army and DFAS have worked to end staffing shortages and processing errors that congressional auditors found to be widespread and harmful to morale.

The Government Accountability Office, in separate reports in November and July, found that more than 90 percent of soldiers in activated Army Guard and Reserve units they studied had experienced significant pay problems, mostly overpayments but also underpayments and delays.

GAO said the errors "often had a profound adverse impact on individual soldiers and their families" and were not easy to correct, hanging over some reservists for more than a year.

Many soldiers said they had spent a considerable amount of their time while deployed, in remote and hostile environments, seeking help to understand their pay and trying to correct errors. Very few received combat-zone tax exemptions on time.

Shine, in a phone interview, said GAO correctly categorized three types of pay problems, involving staffing, processes and an obsolete pay system. The first two have been addressed, he said. The third, replacing what Shine

described as "a 1969-vintage COBAL software program" will take longer, until next March, to install even a temporary fix.

But Shine said real improvements in finance administration and pay processes — within units, at mobilization and demobilization sites, and at DFAS — combined with other safeguards to ensure accuracy, should make the delay in overall pay system reform invisible to deploying forces.

He wants troops to know, he said, "that at the home station, at the mobilization site and when they're in-country, they are going to find trained finance people all along the way," Shine said.

GAO said reserve pay processes and controls for activated units were "inherently flawed." It criticized a lack of accountability over soldiers and their pay at almost every turn during mobilization.

Sloppy procedures in documenting whether soldiers were sent overseas resulted in numerous overpayments, particularly of hardship duty pay, GAO said.

The current Defense Joint Military Pay System (DJMS) actually is two systems, one for active-duty members and one for reservists. The reserve system, Shine said, "was designed just to pay people for weekend drills once a month and two weeks active-duty-for-training once a year." It can be used to pay activated forces, Shine said, but "it requires more manual intervention" which raises the risk of errors.

Errors blossomed during early troop rotations into Afghanistan and Iraq in part because few reserve units arrived with finance teams trained to work their com-

bersome pay system. Pay problems weren't prevalent for reserve forces sent to Bosnia and Kosovo because the Army used two mobilization sites, both appropriately staffed. For Iraq, it needed 26 sites and didn't have enough reserve pay experts to support them all.

The long-term solution is the Defense Integrated Military Human Resource System, which will combine into a single network all military pay and personnel systems, active and reserve. With that system still years away, DFAS and the services came up with an interim replacement for DJMS, enough to move to a combined active and reserve pay system. Called the Forward Compatible Payroll System, it will be implemented in phases, starting with Army Reserve components next spring.

The third force rotation for Iraq will occur this fall, too soon to benefit from a new payroll system. But Shine said mobilized units should see few pay problems because of more and better trained finance teams and greater care in verifying pay accuracy at every stage of mobilization.

DFAS also recently automated hazardous duty pay entries for active personnel. This change alone will lower by 85 percent the number of manual pay transactions needed, saving the Army "hundreds of thousands inputs," Shine said.

Finally, rigid processes are in place to track Reserve and Guard members as they move in and out of combat zones, which trigger sharp changes in pay, a source of many earlier pay errors. DFAS is set to verify such pay changes, and will follow up with automated

checks of payroll data against travel manifests collected by deployed theater finance offices.

Since last November, when GAO issued its first report on widespread pay problems in the Army National Guard, DFAS worked with the Navy, Air Force and Marines to verify the accuracy of pay for activated personnel. Some problems were uncovered but not near the scale of Army difficulties.

Shine advises all servicemembers to review leave and earnings statements routinely. If they find an irregularity, they should seek clarification through the chain of command.

If a pay problem persists, Army Reserve and National

Guard members have a new option, mandated by Congress in the wake of the GAO reports. They or family members with powers of attorney can contact a pay ombudsman. The hot line for Army National Guard units is (877) 276-4729. Army reservists with persistent pay problems can call (608) 388-6466 or DSN 280-6466.

"I feel confident," said Shine, "that soldiers in OIF-3 [Operation Iraqi Freedom Three] will deploy under a completely different set of financial support circumstances than their predecessors did in OIF-1 and 2."

To comment, write Military Update, P.O. Box 231111, Centerville, VA 20120-1111. e-mail: milupdate@doe.com or visit www.militaryupdate.com



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Marine convicted of abusing Iraqi prisoners

BY SETH HETTENA
The Associated Press

CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. — Wearing a khaki-and-green uniform adorned with service ribbons, a Marine reservist stood without reaction as a military jury convicted him of dereliction of duty and abuse of prisoners at a makeshift detention camp in Iraq.

Marine Sgt. Gary Pittman was cleared of two other charges Thursday, including abusing a 52-year-old Iraqi man who died in custody.

He faces a maximum sentence of nine months in prison and a dishonorable discharge. Sentencing deliberations were scheduled to begin Friday.

Pittman's wife cried as the nine-man jury's verdict was read following just four hours of deliberation. Pittman embraced his wife and attorney before leaving the courtroom accompanied by his brother, an Army major. He didn't stop to speak with reporters.

Sergeant cleared in death of detainee

The 40-year-old reservist, who is a federal prison guard in New York in his civilian life, was activated last year and sent to Camp Whitehorse in southern Iraq.

Pittman, who took the stand Wednesday to say he never assaulted a prisoner, was the only witness to testify that he never saw any abuses at the makeshift lockup that has since been closed. A military prosecutor, Maj. Leon Francis, called it the "ter-rordome," a reference to words a Marine had spray-painted on a guard barracks there.

Prosecutors said Pittman karate-kicked Nagem Hatab in the chest more than a day before the Iraqi detainee was found dead in a dusty camp yard. During his nine-day court-martial, they called several Marines who testified that Pittman and other guards kneed, kicked and hit handcuffed prisoners.

Francis told jurors the case was basic-

ly a "whodunnit," requiring them to sift through a contradictory mix of lies and half-truths from the Camp Whitehorse guards, most of whom came from a New York-based reserve unit.

"In the ... terrordome, there are no angels as witnesses," Francis said. "When it came to Mr. Hatab and the prisoners that were abused there, it was hell on Earth."

John Tranberg, Pittman's civilian defense attorney, countered that Pittman and other reservist guards were thrust into a war zone in order to run an enemy prisoner of war camp with no training and almost no support. They used only the force necessary to handle the Arabic speaking rapists and murderers who were also held at Camp Whitehorse. Tranberg said.

"If you've got to grab somebody by the back of the neck to move them is that a strike? Technically, is it excessive force? No," Tranberg said.

Pfc. William Roy, the prosecution's star witness and a direct subordinate of Pittman, testified that he and the Marine sergeant gave Hatab a fierce beating because they believed he had sold a rifle taken during the ambush of a U.S. Army convoy that killed 11 U.S. soldiers and led to the capture of Pfc. Jessica Lynch.

Roy, who accepted a demotion as part of a plea deal, was denounced by the defense as a liar out to save his own skin. The prosecution maintained his account was so full

According to Roy, Hatab said in English "Why? Why? Why? No. No. My children. My children."

An autopsy found Hatab had six broken ribs, as well as several deep bruises, and apparently died from suffocation caused by a broken bone in his throat.

Roy acknowledged that he once grabbed Hatab by the throat, and there was testimony that another guard dragged Hatab 40 feet by his neck to an outside holding area because a bout of diarrhea had left him covered in feces.

Guardisman convicted of attempting to give info to al-Qaida

BY MELANTHIA MITCHELL
The Associated Press

FORT LEWIS, Wash. — A Na

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Anderson

The verdict in Spc. Ryan G. Anderson's court martial, which

began Monday, was announced late Thursday afternoon. The sentence recommendation came early Friday.

Anderson, a tank crewman whose 81st Armor Brigade unit is now in Iraq, was accused of trying to give terrorists information about U.S. troops' strength and tactics. The terrorists he thought he was meeting with were actually undercover federal agents, prosecutors said.

The 27-year-old Muslim convert, who did not testify during the guilt phase of his trial, took the stand Thursday evening in the penalty phase and wept, apologizing to his country and his family.

"I would rather give my life" than do anything to discredit the military, he told the jury of nine commissioned officers from Fort Lewis. He said he felt "really lousy" about his actions.

His mother, Linda Tucker, struggled to breathe and talk through her tears. Extending her arms in a plea to jurors, she said, "Honest to goodness, if you could just look under the surface of Ryan, you'd see that he's not a

bad person."

His father, Bruce Anderson, also testified on his behalf in the penalty proceeding as defense lawyers projected photos of Ryan Anderson as a child and a teen.

The jury deliberated about 4½ hours Thursday before finding Anderson guilty. A two-thirds majority was needed to convict, but the vote was not announced.

Jurors deliberated another 3½

hours before recommending early Friday that Anderson be sentenced to life in prison with the possibility of parole and a dishonorable discharge. The post commander is expected to decide on a sentence in four to six months.

Life in prison would be the maximum penalty. Whatever his sentence, he will receive credit for his 203 days in jail at this Army post following his Feb. 12 arrest.

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DOD plan focuses spending troops, intel

By THOMAS E. RICKS

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Top Pentagon officials are considering a new, long-term strategy that shifts spending and resources away from large-scale warfare to build more agile, specialized forces for fighting guerrilla wars, confronting terrorism and handling less conventional threats, officials said Thursday.

The proposal, presented two weeks ago to Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld and others, could carry major implications for defense spending, eventually moving some funds away from ships, tanks and planes and toward troops, elite Special Operations forces and intelligence gathering. The shift has been circulating for some time, but the plan circulating at the Pentagon would accelerate the changes, analysts said.

The plan's working assumption is that the United States faces almost no serious conventional threats from traditional, state-based militaries. Thus, it says, the United States should accept more risk in that area to pay more attention to other threats: terrorism, the type of low-tech guerrilla fighting confronting troops in Iraq, and the possibility of dramatic technological advances by adversaries.

Some of those priorities depend more heavily on troop strength than high-tech weaponry and could increase the pressure on the Pentagon to build the size of the Army and the Marine Corps.

"The lesson learned in (Operation) Iraqi Freedom is that in some areas, we have capabilities overmatch," said Christopher "Ryan" Henry, the principal undersecretary of defense for policy, who wrote and presented the

briefing to Rumsfeld on Aug. 19. "We can't see many competitors that are coming at us in the traditional domain."

"In the business world, this is the equivalent of coming up with a new product in a new market," Henry added.

The documents said Pentagon planning should emphasize preparing for "catastrophic" challenges such as use of weapons of mass destruction "against high-profile targets by terrorists or rogue states." It also called the need to prepare for "irregular challenges" from other countries or groups, including terrorism, insurgency and civil war.

One example of the new thinking urged in the plan was what it called the "stretch goal" of being able to invade a country, keep 200,000 troops there for five years, and be able to organize, train and equip a local military

force of 100,000 troops in just six months.

One senior officer who attended the mid-August briefing said it was received warmly by top Pentagon officials. "It generated intriguing discussion around the table and a positive endorsement of the concepts in the end," he said.

The discussion came as the Pentagon is gearing up for the major review of overall strategy that Congress requires every four years.

By itself, the document's assessment of threats confronting the military is not controversial. The recent report of the Sept. 11 commission stated the issue clearly: "National security used to be considered by studying foreign frontiers, weighing opposing groups of states, and measuring industrial might. To be dangerous, an ally had to muster large armies."

Outside experts on military change and strategy were skeptical about whether Rumsfeld would be able to secure sweeping change in philosophy.

"It's a step in the right direction," said Andrew Krepinevich, executive director of the Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments, a defense-oriented think tank. But, he said, the uniformed leadership at the Pentagon sometimes simply stalls on embracing radical change until the civilian defense secretary promoting it leaves.

"Rumsfeld has been trying for three years now to refocus the services on the new challenges confronting us," Krepinevich said.

"So far, these efforts have met with little success. How much more likely is Rumsfeld to succeed this time around when the military has a major war on its hands?"

Al-Sadr aide calls for the release of French journalists

By KIM HOUSEGO

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — An aide to radical Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr denounced the kidnapping of two French journalists in Iraq and appealed for their release Friday in a sermon at a makeshift pulpit outside the revered mosque in Kufa in Najaf as hundreds of worshippers held their first weekly prayers since last week's peace agreement.

Al-Sadr aides initially said the cleric planned to give the sermon at the Kufa mosque, which was closed last week after militants pulled out as part of the peace deal, but he abandoned the idea amid fears it could raise tensions. Iraqi security forces also sealed off roads and fired warning shots near the city, seeking to limit the number of worshippers and avoid unrest.

Sheik Jaber al-Khafafi, delivering al-Sadr's sermon on his behalf, condemned the kidnapping of the two French journalists and urged their quick release.

France said it had received word that the captives, Christian Chesnot and Georges Malbrun, were alive and one of their employers claimed the kidnappers had handed them over to a Sunni Muslim opposition group.

Hopes for their release were raised further Friday when Abdul-Salam al-Qubissi, an official with the Association of Muslim Scholars — a Sunni clerical organization with alleged ties to insurgents — said the Frenchmen's lives were no longer threatened and it was only a matter of time before they would be freed.

Iraqi police and national guardsmen set up checkpoints, barring all cars from entering Kufa a week after al-Sadr and his al-Mahdi militia relinquished control of the city's revered shrine.

Ahmed al-Shabani, an al-Sadr aide, accused police forces of arresting dozens of the cleric's followers in Kufa and the nearby city of Najaf.

Nevertheless, about 2,000 followers of al-Sadr lined the street in front of the mosque, setting up a pulpit on the street.

Despite the peace deal in Najaf, many members of al-Sadr's militia are thought to have returned with their weapons to their Baghdad stronghold of Sadr City and the cleric's representatives and Iraq's interim government have been seeking common ground to end fighting there.

Also Friday, firefighters battled a massive oil pipeline fire that raged in Riyanh about 40 miles southwest of the northern city of Kirkuk, a day after saboteurs detonated explosives on the line linking fields near Kirkuk with the oil refinery of Beiji, said Maj. Gen. Anwar Mohammed Amin of the Iraqi National Guard.

In other developments, three Macedonian contractors disappeared in Iraq 10 days ago, a government spokesman in Skopje and their employers said Friday.

Iraqi officials have been unable to confirm whether they were kidnapped.

In the U.S. military said two U.S. soldiers were wounded when they were hit by shrapnel when their convoy came under attack while on patrol near the city of Tikrit.

■ Gunmen abducted four policemen and an Iranian they were escorting to the border to be deported after raiding their hotel room in the southern city of Basra, a senior Basra police official said on condition of anonymity. The official declined to provide details on why he was being deported, but linked the Iranian's deportation to the unrest in Najaf.

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MIDWEST NOTEBOOK

Lisa Burgess and Seth Robson

Crews' toys set for duty

The air evacuation crew of the 45th Medical Company Air Ambulance, out of Ansbach, Germany, has a regular menagerie of Talismans on board when they fly from their "Desert Dust Off" air base at Tallil, Iraq.

The pilot in charge, Capt. Gerald Bonner, has a SpongeBob Squarepants that his daughter Sara bought for him four years ago, when she was 12.

SpongeBob took his maiden flight with Bonner when the officer was assigned to the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif. Then came a tour in South Korea, and now SpongeBob is seeing action in Iraq, Bonner said.

Also sitting in the cockpit is 1st Lt. Jerry Murphy's Goofy doll, which his father, Jerry Murphy Sr., gave him with strict instructions to log flight hours and missions before sending Goofy home.

And finally, poking his head out from medic Sgt. Reginald Jones' personal gear bag, is a small stuffed tiger.

The toys seem surprising companions for battle-hardened air crew. But whenever that Black Hawk goes wheels-up, SpongeBob, Goofy, and Tiger are present and ready for duty.

Hazards of smoking

Smoking can be dangerous, as one hapless soldier found out recently at Camp Buehring, Kuwait.

The soldier was standing next to a portable toilet enjoying a cigarette when he was rudely interrupted by a flying soccer ball.

He had not noticed that the portable toilet formed part of a goal being used by a group of soldiers playing soccer. One of the players executed a perfectly timed strike between the portable toilet and a box of water bottles serving as the other goalpost.

The ball sailed through the goal and struck the smoker square in the torso, sending the glowing ember he had been drawing on spiraling away into the night.

A little closer to home

Soldiers in the 299th Forward Support Battalion at Camp Anaconda, Iraq, now can look forward to breakfast, lunch and dinner.

In October, the soldiers will no longer need to take the mile-long walk to eat at a chow hall. That's when Dining Facility Five will open up, much to the relief of troops who before could have walked up to six miles a day to and from the chow hall.

E-mail Lisa Burgess in Baghdad at: burgessl@stripes.osd.mil; Seth Robson in Iraq at: robsonst@stripes.osd.mil

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IN THE WORLD

Russian hostage crisis ends in violence, chaos

At least 200 dead, 700 wounded as commandos storm school held by rebels

BY MIKE ECKEL
The Associated Press

BESLAN, Russia — Commandos stormed a school Friday in southern Russia and overcame separatist rebels holding hundreds of hostages as crying children, some naked and covered in blood, fled the building through explosions and gunfire. Health officials said more than 200 people died, the *Interfax* news agency reported.

Ninety-five victims were identified — many of them children whose shattered, bloodied bodies were placed on lines of stretchers — and *Interfax* quoted unnamed sources in the regional Health Ministry as saying more than 200 people were killed by fire from the militants or died from their wounds.

Hundreds of hostages survived the crisis, with in targeting children on the first day of classes crossed a boundary and amounted to a significant escalation in the decade-old Russian-Chechen conflict. More than 700 others were injured, officials said.

Russian authorities insisted that the militants initiated Friday's violence as emergency teams entered the school, with the hostage-takers' permission, to collect the bodies of several men who had been executed earlier.

It was not clear where the tragic end to the siege would leave President Vladimir Putin's tough policy on Chechnya, which to date had enjoyed broad support despite the heavy toll rebel violence has taken in recent years.

An explosives expert told NTV television that the commandos charged into the building after bombs — hung in basketball hoops by the hostage-takers — exploded. A sobbing young girl who escaped the school told NTV that a suicide bomber blew herself up in the gym where children were kept captive.

Twenty militants were killed in more than 10 hours of gunfights with security forces, 10 of them Arabs, Valery Andreyev, the region's Federal Security Service

chief, said in televised comments. Putin's adviser on Chechnya, Aslanbek Aslanhanov, also said a number of the dead militants were Arab mercenaries.

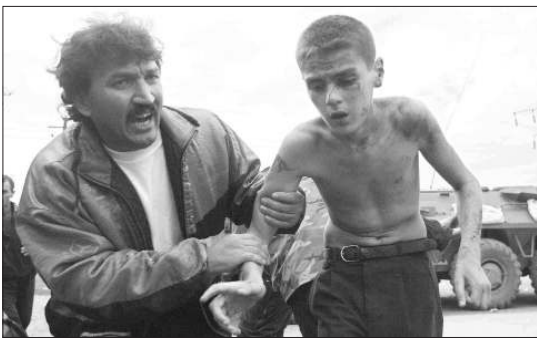
After trading fire with militants holed up in the basement of a school annex, officials said the fighting was over, but that four militants remained at large. Three suspected hostage-takers were arrested trying to escape wearing civilian dress, Channel One TV reported, and Ekho Moskvy radio said a suspected female hostage-taker was detained when she approached an area hospital wearing a white robe.

The Arab presence among the attackers would bolster Putin's case that the Russian campaign in neighboring Chechnya, where mostly Muslim separatists have been fighting Russian forces in a brutal war for most of the past decade, is part of the war on international terrorism.

Late Friday, the ITAR-Tass news agency cited unspecified security sources as saying al-Qaida financed the attack on the school, and that Chechen warlord Shamil Basayev masterminded the raid. The report also said an alleged al-Qaida operative, Abu Omar as-Saif, coordinated the financing of the attack.

Regional President Alexander Dzasoklav said Friday that the hostage-takers had demanded that Russian troops leave Chechnya — the first clear indication of their demands and of a direct link between the attack on the school and the ongoing war in the neighboring region.

The militants seized the school in Beslan, Russia, where a school in Beslan, Russia, was the scene of a Moscow subway station killed at least nine people, and just over a week after two Russian passenger jets crashed nearly simultaneously after what authorities believed were explosions on board triggered by suicide bombers, possibly Chechen women.



A man helps an injured boy running from a seized school in Beslan, North Ossetia, Russia, on Friday. Commandos stormed the school in southern Russia where hundreds of hostages had been held for three days.

World leaders react

BY JOCELYN GECKER
The Associated Press

PARIS — World leaders expressed horror over the bloody climax of Russia's hostage crisis Friday, saying the barbaric attack on school children showed terrorists have sunk to new lows, and some experts warned that Russia's Chechnya conflict was becoming the next crossroads of international terrorism.

"We have been confronted with a deep human tragedy," said Dutch Foreign Minister Ben Bot, speaking on behalf of the European Union.

As images of wailing mothers outside the school in Beslan, Russia, were beamed around the world, and bloodied figures were seen wheeled away on stretchers, many decried the violence as heinous new territory for terrorists.

"This is a new dimension of terrorism," said Ger-

man Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder. "There are no reasons imaginable that could justify taking children, toddlers, babies and their mothers hostages," said German Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer.

President Bush called the siege "another grim reminder of the length to which terrorists will go to threaten this civilized world."

The European Union directed criticism at Russia's handling of the crisis, saying it regretted the violence and bloodshed.

However, the 25-nation bloc understood that Russian authorities had few options, Bot said. He said the tragedy highlighted the need for Russia to end the long-standing conflict in Chechnya and that the EU would push for a peaceful resolution.

From the Middle East, several leaders called Putin to convey condolences and denounce the hostage-takers. Lebanese President Emile Lahoud said Beirut "denounces all forms of terror, especially that which threatens the lives of children and innocents."

Extremists tackling once-taboo targets

The Associated Press

VIENNA, Austria — In Iraq, they've saved off people's heads in grisly executions shown on the Internet. In Israel, they've blown themselves up inside packed buses.

Now, in Russia, they've turned a school into a slaughterhouse.



Extremists have become chillingly brazen in singling out so-called "soft" targets — and counterterrorism experts say they fear nothing is off-limits anymore to those intent on achieving maximum punch, publicity and paranoia.

This week's bloody school stand-off in southern Russia, which culminated Friday in scores of civilian casualties that included children, shattered whatever might have remained of the notion that innocents are taboo terror victims.

"They're crossing thresholds — no question about it," said Jonathan Stevenson, a terrorism expert with the Washington office of the International Institute for Strategic Studies.

Militants "are becoming much more educated in terms of what

will have an effect," said Sandra Bell, director of homeland security at the Royal United Services Center, a London think tank.

Extremists in Russia's break-away Chechnya region increasingly have adopted the tactics of Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida and other Middle Eastern terrorism groups, said Rohan Gunaratna, a Singapore-based counterterrorism expert. Soft targets such as hospitals, theaters and concerts, have been a Chechen hallmark since the start of the conflict a decade ago.

"They have blown up mosques, attacked transportation infrastructure, destroyed planes and now conducted a mass hostage-taking," he said.

Experts tracking terrorism calls say the trend toward soft targets is undeniable — and probably unstoppable.

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Skirt malfunction

SYDNEY, Australia — Hundreds of people turned out to see Miss Universe strut her stuff on the catwalk. They weren't expecting to see this much of her.

Australian rugby league cheerleader Jennifer Hawkins, who was crowned Miss Universe earlier this year, was at a Sydney fashion show Thursday when a skirt she was wearing unraveled from around her waist and slipped to the floor.

As spectators gasped, 25-year-old Hawkins giggled and rushed backstage.

"I was walking along in a Bora dress and the bottom just came off," she said later in a television interview. "It was just a pity I wasn't wearing better pajamas."

The incident won Hawkins praise for poise in adversity from Sydney tabloid *The Daily Telegraph*.

Hawkins scored a 10 out of 10 for courage under fire, simply laughing the incident off, the paper said on its social pages.

\$35M compensation

TRIPOLI, Libya — Libya signed an agreement to pay \$35 million in compensation for non-U.S. victims in the 1986 bombing of disco in Berlin, the latest step in Libya's attempts to put its international pariah status behind it.

The money will be distributed among 168 claimants: Germans who were wounded or suffered psychological damage and family of a Turkish woman killed in the blast. The April 5, 1986 bombing of the La Belle discotheque in west Berlin also killed two U.S. servicemen and wounded at total of 230 people.

Lawyers are seeking separate compensation in U.S. courts for American victims.

An executive of a foundation run by Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi's son signed the agreement with German lawyers representing the families of the victims.

"The negotiations were very hard but we managed to overcome all the obstacles," Ali Abdel Salam, the executive manager of the Libyan foundation, said at a news conference following the signing.

Hans-Joachim Ehrig, one of four German lawyers who sat at the negotiating table with the Libyans, said through a translator, "This is a happy day for the victims who were waiting all those years to get their compensation."

The compensation will be paid within six months.

Spies everywhere

JAKARTA, Indonesia — Indonesia's army chief of staff on Friday accused unnamed foreign spies of sending hundreds of spies to gather intelligence in the world's most populous Muslim nation.

"Hundreds of foreign spies have already entered the country under various guises such as working for foreign institutions," Lt. Gen. Ryumardz Ryacudu told a gathering in the northwestern city of Medan.

He didn't name the countries or institutions, but warned Indonesians not to receive financial donations from these foreign institutions without learning what their motives are."

From The Associated Press

S. Korea denies any nuke aspirations

2000 secret experiment may affect talks with N. Korea

BY SANG-HUN CHOE

The Associated Press

SEOUL — South Korea denied harboring any nuclear weapons ambitions Friday, saying a one-time uranium enrichment test by its scientists should not derail U.S.-led efforts to dismantle rival North Korea's nuclear programs.

The denial — stated repeatedly during a government interview with foreign news media — came a day after South Korea admitted that its scientists conducted an unauthorized experiment in 2000 to enrich a small amount of uranium.

That admission to the International Atomic Energy Agency raised questions about the South may have secretly dabbled with a weapons program, and confounded an international stand-off over communist North Korea's nuclear weapons development.

Such an experiment could provide the North with a pretext to further delay the already stalling six-nation negotiations aimed at dismantling its nuclear facilities, which U.S. officials say are used to enrich uranium or yield plutonium for weapons.

"South Korea has never had, and does not have, enrichment or nuclear reprocessing programs, let alone a weaponization program," said Oh Joon, director general for international organization of South Korea's Foreign Ministry.

Oh referred to the 2000 enrichment test — conducted at South Korea's nuclear research center at Yongbyon — as an "isolated scientific experiment," and dismissed any comparisons between it and suspected nuclear programs in such countries as Iran and North Korea.

He said South Korea doesn't have nuclear weapons capabilities.

"Since this was a one-time iso-



An official walks by a drum containing nuclear waste at the Ministry of Science and Technology in Kwacheon, South Korea, Friday. The U.N.'s nuclear watchdog is investigating a secret uranium-enrichment experiment conducted four years ago by South Korean scientists. The letters read "Radioactive Atomic Cocktail."

lated scientific experiment, not part of any enrichment or weaponization program, we think this should not, and will not, have any impact on the ongoing six-nation nuclear talks," Oh said.

An IAEA team wrapped up a weeklong inspection in South Korea on Friday to verify the declaration the country made to the Austria-based U.N. nuclear watchdog last month and made public Thursday.

In the declaration, South Korea said its experiment "involved the production of only milligram quantities of enriched uranium."

Several pounds of highly en-

riched uranium are needed to build a bomb, experts say.

South Korea says it's too early to say whether its scientists perpetrated any serious violation of international nuclear nonproliferation agreements and thus should be punished.

Oh also refused to say whether the experiment produced any weapons-grade uranium. He said different levels of enrichment took place but that the average was much lower than weapons grade.

U.S. State Department spokesman Richard Boucher criticized the secret experiment as "activity that should not have occurred."

But he praised the U.S. ally for working with the IAEA to make sure the program has ended.

South Korea says the 2000 experiment involved separating just 0.01 ounce of uranium, and that the equipment used for the experiment was scrapped a few months after the test.

North Korea says it is building a nuclear deterrent to counter what it calls plans by the United States and South Korea to unleash a nuclear war on the divided Korean Peninsula.

The United States, the Koreans, Japan, China and Russia have agreed to resume negotiations on the North's nuclear programs by the end of the month, but no date has been announced.

Indonesia defends sips for tips

The Associated Press

JAKARTA, Indonesia — Indonesia reaffirmed its commitment to fight terrorism Friday after police officers came under fire this week for taking a convicted Bali bomber to Starbucks for coffee.

"Our resolve has always been to serve our national interest, which is to protect ourselves from terrorism," said Yuri Thamrin, a foreign ministry spokesman. "We will continue to fight it."

On Wednesday, a police general was seen sipping coffee at Starbucks with Ali Imron, who is serving a life sentence for his role in the Oct. 12, 2002, Bali bombings. Several armed plainclothes officers were also present.

A police spokesman later explained that officer Brig. Gen. Gories Mere wanted to discuss ongoing probes into several other

terror cases with Imron, and that no laws had been broken by taking him from prison for coffee.

"The police have got to develop certain techniques to uncover the terror networks," Thamrin said Friday.

The spectacle of a convicted terrorist enjoying coffee in an up-market mall sparked outrage in Australia, which lost 89 citizens in the blast that has been blamed on *Jemaah Islamiyah* — an al-Qaida linked militant network based in Southeast Asia.

Foreign Minister Alexander Downer said on Friday the sight of the coffee shop was wrong. "I think all of us ... would think that was completely inappropriate," Downer told reporters in Adelaide. Imron was sentenced to life in jail last September for building and transporting one of the bombs used in the attacks.

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IN THE STATES

Clinton hospitalized, will undergo bypass surgery

BY TOM HAYS

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Former President Bill Clinton checked into a Manhattan hospital Friday with chest pains and will soon undergo bypass surgery, his office announced.

An angiogram given to Clinton, who had been expected to campaign for Sen. John Kerry in his run for the White House, revealed "significant blockage," said a Democratic official. It did not appear that Clinton suffered a heart attack, said the official, who had discussed the condition with the former president's staff and spoke on condition of anonymity.

There also was no official word on when the surgery would take place. A source speaking on condition of anonymity said it was not likely to take place Friday, but Sen. Hillary Clinton said her husband was advised "to do it as soon as he could."

Clinton, 58, was admitted to New York Presbyterian Hospital/Columbia after undergoing initial testing near his suburban home, his office said. He canceled a two-day joint trip with his wife across upper New York.

Sen. Clinton and their daughter, Chelsea, were to be with the former president in the city, the statement said.

The former first lady made a brief appearance Friday at the New York State Fair in Syracuse, after which she noted that her husband was hospitalized and would need heart surgery, and apolo-



Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, D-N.Y., and former President Bill Clinton at the Democratic National Convention in Boston. Clinton checked himself into a New York City hospital on Friday after suffering chest pains, a Democratic Party official and a police source said.

gized for leaving right away. "He's in excellent hands," she said.

In Little Rock, Arkansas, Clinton's mother-in-law, Dorothy Rodham, said Clinton had called her to tell her about the situation.

"He sounded wonderful as usual and very upbeat, as he always is," she said. "I just told him how much I love him."

She said she didn't know if he was in the hospital when he called.

Clinton called his step-father, Dick Kelley, at his Hot Springs, Ar-

kansas home, Kelley said.

"He's very gung-ho and optimistic about what's going to happen."

Clinton had a cancerous growth removed from his back shortly after leaving office in early 2001. It turned out to be basal cell carcinoma, the most treatable form of skin cancer. In 1996, he had had a precancerous lesion removed from his nose and a year before that had a benign cyst taken off his chest.

Other than that, Clinton has had the normal health problems that often accompany aging — periods of slightly elevated cholesterol and hearing loss — and an appetite for junk food. In 1997, he was fitted with hearing aids. He has also suffered from allergies.

On Thursday, Clinton went to Northern Westchester Hospital after suffering "mild chest pain" and shortness of breath, his office said in a statement. He spent the night at his Chappaqua home, but checked into the Manhattan hospital after further tests Friday revealed the medical problem.

"He's going to be fine," Kerry told a campaign rally in Newark, Ohio. "But every single one of us wants to extend to him our best wishes, our prayers and our thoughts and I want you all to let a cheer out and clap that he can hear all the way to New York," Kerry said to cheers.

President George W. Bush, campaigning in Wisconsin, wished Clinton "best wishes for a swift and speedy recovery."

"He's in our thoughts and prayers," Bush said.

British Prime Minister Tony Blair sent a personal goodwill message to Clinton, his office in London said.



Customers wait in line at Home Depot on Palm Beach Lakes, Fla., to purchase supplies in preparation for Hurricane Frances.

Florida braces for menacing Frances

BY BRENDAN FARRINGTON

The Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Fla. — A day after 2.5 million Floridians were told to flee Hurricane Frances before it was too late, residents waited anxiously in shelters and hotels Friday as the lumbering, monstrous storm wobbled more slowly toward the state's Atlantic coast.

Frances' core was now expected to hit somewhere in Florida Saturday afternoon or evening, instead of early Saturday as had been earlier predicted. It would be the state's second hurricane pummeling in three weeks and the longer wait gave more time for preparations, but also frayed nerves.

Frances weakened Friday into a strong Category 3 storm with 115 mph top sustained winds, down from 120 mph earlier in the day and 145 mph Thursday. It

still could push ashore waves up to 10 feet high north of where its center hits and mean deep flooding was possible in a state with hundreds of miles of low-lying coastline.

"I hope people don't take comfort in the fact that" Frances weakened, Gov. Jeb Bush said Friday. "The storm is very unpredictable."

Forecasters said Frances' weakening could only be temporary as is common with large storms, but predicted it would have winds of 115 mph when it makes landfall. If it regained its former strength, it could be the worst storm to hit the state since Andrew in 1992.

At 2 p.m. EDT, the hurricane was centered about 190 miles east of Miami and was moving west-northwest near 9 mph. Hurricane-force winds extended up to 85 miles from its center, and tropical storm-force winds stretched up to 185 miles from its center.

It represented the first time since 1950 that two major storms — defined as ones with top sustained winds of at least 111 mph — have hit Florida so close together. On Aug. 13, Hurricane Charley caused billions of dollars in damage and killed 27 people when it tore across the state.

With its imposing size, the cloud cover was about as big as the state of Texas — Frances had the potential to ravage the state with its slow movement. Forecasters said the slower the storm moves, the longer its winds and rain could linger, increasing the possibility of serious damage.

A hurricane warning covered much of the state's eastern coast, from Florida City, near the state's southern tip, to Flagler Beach, north of Daytona Beach.

Bush estimated 2.5 million residents were under evacuation orders in 15 Florida counties based on the state's projections of people living in evacuated areas.

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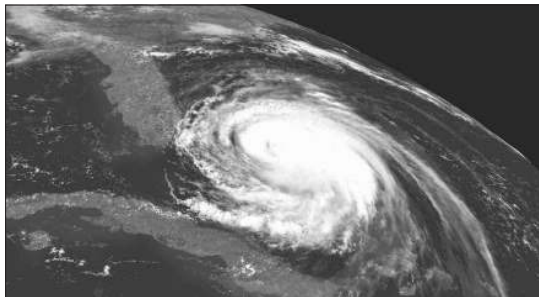
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Hurricane Frances approaches Florida's coast as shown in a satellite image taken Friday morning.

NAS Jacksonville evacuated as Hurricane Frances nears

BY SANDRA JONTZ

Stars and Stripes

The U.S. Navy began evacuating personnel and repositioning much of its aircraft from Naval Air Station Jacksonville as Hurricane Frances barreled toward the Florida coast, the second major storm to threaten the state in three weeks.

Navy officials started the evacuation late Thursday, repositioning P-3 Orion aircraft from NAS Jacksonville and flying them to Fort Worth, Texas, Norfolk, Va., and McConnell Air Force base in Kansas, according to a news release.

"The type of aircraft determines where they go, and these are existing agreements we have with the various bases," NAS Jacksonville spokesman Bill Dougherty said. "Our goal is put them in a location that is away from the severe weather."

The base's S-3 Vikings left Friday for Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, and Naval Air Station North Island, Calif. The SH-60 Sea Hawk helicopters left Friday for Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., Norfolk and Naval Air Station Pensacola, Fla.

Also, two logistics transporter C-40 Clipper, the military version of the large Boeing 737, left for Dallas and Norfolk, with a third

Ga. residents stock up in case hurricane strikes

TYBEE ISLAND, Ga. — With Hurricane Frances too close and too powerful to ignore, residents of coastal Georgia — where no major hurricane has hit in more than a century — hedged their bets, stocking up on supplies and booking inland hotel rooms.

Gov. Sonny Perdue ordered a pre-emptive state of emergency throughout Georgia. The 100-mile coastline remained a possible target for the hurricane should it veer from its forecast path into Florida, where massive evacuations were already under way. Even if it makes landfall in Florida, however, its trek was expected to bring rain to the Southeast by Tuesday.

No evacuations had been ordered by midmorning Friday.

In the meantime, the state focused on handling the influx of Floridians. Interstate 75 resembled a parking lot at the Florida line, and state troopers planned to reroute some traffic onto a state highway. Along the coast, I-95 was moving more steadily but was still heavy, and most area rest stops were full. Officers were telling motorists to sleep in their cars alongside the highway to move along. State Patrol dispatcher Rene Easterling said. Even before dawn, gas stations in Brunswick were packed, she said.

From The Associated Press

flying to Rota, Spain, though that aircraft was making its normal run overseas, Dougherty said.

On the opposite side of the peninsula, Central Command and MacDill Air Force base also were taking precautionary measures, though there were no plans to evacuate the base as officials had done three weeks ago when Hurricane Charley hit. Charley missed the base, making landfall further south than predicted.

"Our preparation procedures

are better refined from the recent practice we learned from Charley and we have a better collective appreciation of the power of a hurricane," said Central Command spokesman Maj. Matt McLaughlin.

"People are taking it very seriously, especially in light of the tragic loss of life in central Florida three weeks ago."

Hurricane Charley killed 27 people.

E-mail Sandra Jontz at: jontzs@stripes.osd.mil

Actor Sizemore's probation revoked

LOS ANGELES — Actor Tom Sizemore's probation in a domestic abuse case involving former Hollywood madam Heidi Fleiss was revoked Thursday because he failed to complete a drug test.

The judge allowed Sizemore to remain free pending an evidence hearing on Nov. 8.

Sizemore, 42, who has appeared in such films as "Black Hawk Down" and "Saving Private Ryan," was sentenced in October to six months in jail on misdemeanor charges of physically abusing Fleiss during their two-year relationship.

Authorities said Sizemore refused to provide a urine sample for a drug test at a probation office

last month. "He simply walked out," prosecutor Robert Cha said.

Sizemore's attorney said the actor passed a test at his drug counselor's office that day, but he declined to take a test at the probation office because an officer he didn't recognize wanted to search him and he feared the results might be tampered with.

"I have every reason to believe him when he tells me that he is clean," attorney Michael Rovell said.

Authorities still are deciding whether to file charges against Sizemore in connection with his Aug. 11 arrest at his West Hollywood home, where police said they found drugs.

From The Associated Press

A little advice to jazz up Jeopardy! genius Jennings

BY BOBBY BRYANT

Knight Ridder Newspapers

Ken Jennings. Kenneth? Kenny? Ken-Jen? Info-Master K? The Mighty K Man? All right, we'll just call you Ken. But you need to consider changing that. It's fine for a software engineer in Salt Lake City, but you're in the Big Time, baby. You're the man now, dawg. (In Big Time lingo, Ken, that simply means, "You are worthy of praise, my friend." But of course you knew that.) Ken, you'll return to the syndicated game show "Jeopardy!" on Sept. 6 to try to continue the record-breaking winning streak that you started June 2.

By the time the show ended its season in July, you had won 38 straight games and bagged \$1.3 million. Host Alex Trebek was in awe of you. Alex Trebek is a man not easily awed. He's Canadian, just like the X-Men's Wolverine.

Now, your task is to keep doing what you did most of the summer — to keep being the Godzilla of "Jeopardy," the "nerd stud" from Utah — to keep the streak going for many more weeks.

It will be difficult, but not impossible. It's not as if you're competing with "The Weakest Link," with leather-trenchcoated Anne Robinson ripping raw holes in your self-esteem, or on "Fear Factor," with Joe Rogan making you eat caterpillars while reciting the Pledge of Allegiance backwards.

You can do this. We can help. Here are some ideas you might consider:

1. Study tapes of those "Saturday Night Live" spoofs of "Jeopardy!" in which Will Ferrell played Trebek and Darrell Hammond played celebrity contestant Sam Conner. Observe how Conner keeps Trebek off balance with subtle psychological maneuvers: Trebek: Let's just go to "Animal Sound." Conner: This is the sound a doggy makes.

(Conner buzzes in.) Mr. Con-

nerry.

Connerry: Moo.

Trebek: No.

Connerry: Well, that's the sound



Ken Jennings

your mother made last night! Trebek: OK, that's not necessary. Ken, this entire skill is included on "Saturday Night Live: The Best of Will Ferrell," available for \$15 on videotape. Buy a copy. You can afford it.

2. Dig up some dirt on Trebek. He can't be as squeaky clean as he seems.

For example, if you do an Internet search on Trebek's name, you'll run across a Web site documenting how funky his hair used to look. How embarrassing! And if you run "Trebek" through a standard computer spell-checker, it suggests changing the name to "Tree-like."

Tree-like! Imagine what he'd do to keep that piece of information quiet.

3. Implant a microchip in your brain, a la the new "Mansurion Candidate." Using the microchip, instantly download the entire contents of the Library of Congress every time you are asked a question. (No, wait, you're doing that already. Never mind.)

4. Hook up with video vixens Paris Hilton and Nicole Richie of "The Simple Life," become tabloid fodder. (KEN JENNINGS' LIPOSUCTION VIAGRA BOTOX NIGHTMARE!) It would unnerve your fellow contestants and gain you precious seconds to hit the buzzer.

5. Two words: Nose rings.

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Franks: Bush is 'the real thing'

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — In a rousing warup for President Bush, retired Gen. Tommy Franks on Thursday called his commander in chief "the real thing," a man who has the "courage and consistency" needed to lead America in the fight against terrorism.

"Citizens and friends, I've been with this president in tough, uncertain times," Franks, former commander of forces in Iraq and Afghanistan, said at the Republican National Convention. "George W. Bush is the real thing. He is the real thing."

Franks said he's seen "courage and consistency" in Bush's eyes: "The courage to stand up to terrorists and the consistency necessary to beat them."

"Terrorism against our country started long before 9/11. Terrorists have been killing Americans for more than two decades," said Franks. "I am proud that this president has chosen to make a stand."

Franks, who grew up in Midland, Texas, has raised his public profile as he promotes his just-published memoirs, "American Soldier."

More than a dozen other retired generals and admirals also appeared, among them retired Gen. P.K. Kelley, former U.S. Marine Corps commandant.

Although he never directly named Democratic challenger John Kerry or the Democrats who have attacked Bush's handling of the war in Iraq and Afghanistan, Franks said: "Some argue that we should treat this war as a law enforcement issue. Some say we should fight a less aggressive war, that we should retreat into a defensive posture and hope the terrorists don't attack us again."

Bush is the man to lead America, Franks said. "I choose George W. Bush because he is a leader we can depend on to make the tough decision: the right decision," Franks said.

"I choose George W. Bush because his vision to take the fight to the terrorists is the best way to protect our country."

From The Associated Press



President Bush and first lady Laura Bush greet a crowd Friday in Moose, Pa. Bush lost Pennsylvania in 2000, so it was his first stop after accepting the Republican Party's nomination Thursday night in New York's Madison Square Garden.

Bush, Kerry trade post-convention campaign barbs

President tells GOP faithful U.S. and world 'safer' now

BY TOM RAUM

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — President Bush pledged "a safer world and a more hopeful America" as he accepted his party's nomination for a second term and plunged into the final two months of his re-election campaign. He promptly drew fire Friday from Democratic challenger John Kerry, who said Bush is "unfit to lead this country."

In the city that transformed his presidency three Septembers ago, Bush declared to a raucous Republican convention crowd: "We have fought the terrorists across the earth — not for pride, not for power, but because the lives of our citizens are at stake. We have led, many have joined, and America and the world are safer."

Bush wasted no time in getting back on the campaign trail, leaving New York soon after his hour-long speech Thursday night for Pennsylvania. He spoke at a Friday morning rally in Moose; stops later in the day in Wisconsin and Iowa also were scheduled.

With the economy figuring heavily in the campaign, new unemployment figures Friday showed the nation's jobless rate dipping slightly to 5.4 percent as the economy added 144,000 jobs in August.

Kerry released a statement saying the numbers mean Bush remains on pace to be the first president since the Great Depression to have no net gain in jobs during his term. Other "presidents have

faced wars and recessions, but not one of them has failed to create a single job," Kerry said.

Not surprisingly, Bush offered a different interpretation.

"Overall, we've added about 1.7 million jobs since August 2003. The unemployment rate is down to 5.4 percent," Bush said.

At the Republican convention, Bush stood a few miles from where two hijacked planes destroyed the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001, to make a nationally broadcast appeal to Americans for another term. "In the last four years, you and I have come to know each other. Even when we don't agree, at least you know what I believe and where I stand," he said.

"Voters will make a choice based on the records we have built, the convictions we hold and the vision that guides us forward," Bush said.

Kerry quickly joined the fray, flying from his home state, Massachusetts, to Springfield, Ohio, where he delivered a broadside against Bush and Vice President Dick Cheney at a midnight rally.

"They have attacked my patriotism and my fitness to serve as commander in chief," Kerry said. "I'm not going to have any commitment to defend this country questioned by those who refused to serve when they could have and by those who have misled the nation into Iraq."

Bush also unapologetically defended his decision to invade Afghanistan and Iraq.

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Convention a Bush, Cheney family affair

BY ANNE GEARAN
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — With patrician mannerisms and that instantly recognizable jawline, father George 41, son George 43 and some 80 other Bush relatives were proof this week that politics is the family business of a large and far-flung dynasty.

There are fewer Cheneys, but all are vice president's immediate family was on hand for the Republican convention — even an 8-week-old grandson.

For the big finale Thursday, three generations of each clan were onstage as President Bush and Vice President Dick Cheney accepted the party nomination.

The tableau was scripted down to first daughter Jenna Bush's teasing references to family disci-

plinarian Ganny, known to non-Bushes as former first lady Barbara Bush.

Twins Jenna and Barbara Bush, 22 and fresh out of college, represented the full flowering of Team Bush.

Until now, the twins were seen rarely and heard never, and strictly off-limits for the press. The pair had daily campaign events at the convention, although the twins weren't all good for a giggle stand-up routine introducing their mother in prime time Tuesday.

"I was actually very proud of my nieces," Doris Bush Koch, President Bush's sister, told The Associated Press this week. The twins "really just want to be young girls, be with their friends and move on with their lives, but

because they love their mother so much they stood up."

Doris and Barbara Bush the elder made the rounds of Republican women's events, press interviews and other appearances this week, as did Lynne and daughter Liz Cheney. Less visible but here nonetheless were the president's brothers Neil and Marvin and their wives.

With all that love in the air, the few missing faces stood out.

Mary Cheney, the vice president's lesbian daughter, did not join her sister and the rest of her family in the hall Thursday night.

On Wednesday night, Mary had sat beside her lesbian partner in the family box to hear her father's acceptance speech, but did not appear with the rest of the family afterward for smiles and waves on stage.

They gay couple simply left after the speech, and it was not clear whether they jumped out of the more visible onstage family picture or they were pushed.

Also absent this week was Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, who may have stayed away to avoid stoking rumors of a presidential run in 2008. The Bush campaign said Jeb needed to tend to the aftermath of Hurricane Charley.

Even if Jeb had been here he probably would have returned to Florida before his brother's acceptance speech. Hurricane Frances could hit Florida by Friday night and Jeb Bush has called out the National Guard.

No sign either Jeb Bush's wife, Columba, who has stayed out of trouble since getting fired in 1999 for trying to sneak \$19,000 worth of Parisian shopping past U.S. Customs.

Bush tries to change focus of election

BY RON FOURNIER
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — An unpopular war and 1.1 million lost jobs is enough to kill a presidency, so President Bush tried Thursday night to make the election about something else: himself and his leadership style.

ANALYSIS

He sought to make a virtue of his differences with half or more of the electorate, and cast Democratic rival John Kerry as an indecisive liberal unfit for wartime leadership.

Reluctant to admit mistakes, Bush copped to a few — arrogant, too blunt and grammatically challenged — and explained them away with laugh lines. But he didn't give an inch on the matters that matter most: a war in Iraq that has cost the lives of nearly 1,000 U.S. troops, and a job-loss record that rivals Herbert Hoover.

These two issues are fueling a sense of unease among voters, with nearly 60 percent saying the nation is headed in the wrong direction. Bush's big challenge was making Americans feel better about the course of their nation and the politics of their president.

Stick with me, Bush said. By a 3-to-1 margin, people think the war in Iraq increased rather than decreased the threat of terrorism, and a solid majority don't think Bush has a clear plan for ending it. He offered none in the speech, promising to bring troops home "as soon as possible," when Iraq is secure and democratic. Then he set about suggesting that Kerry would make a different choice. The idea is to make people afraid to change, even as they're craving it.

Standing on a presidential seal, with a golden eagle's wings spreading across a deep blue carpet, Bush basked in presidential gravitas — something a challenger cannot match.

On the domestic front, Bush said, "We've seen an economy rise to its feet" and ticked off a laundry list of small-boats initiatives to keep it there. He promised more money to train workers and for community colleges and more economic zones offering tax relief to the poorest areas.

After months of courting conservatives, Bush stood off his four-year-old "compassionate conservative" slogan and a poll-tested agenda to boot.

Voters will decide if he delivered, but that may not be the point. If Bush has his way, the election won't be about the issues, but the quality of men pushing them.

Cameras record bad behavior on both sides during protest rallies

BY TOM HAYS
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The digital cameras and video recorders popped up whenever there was a commotion at the Republican convention — and even when there was not.

With flashguns blazing, protesters photographed police. Police filmed protesters. Filming both sides were journalists, legal observers and the occasional tourist.

Call it the paparazzi protest, where demonstrators and police stalk each other with cameras in hopes of catching their prey in positions of misbehavior or abuse. The footage has turned up on its way into court.

Street protests during this week's convention at Madison Square Garden were teeming with amateur and freelance videographers.

On public-access television, the Manhattan Neighborhood Network broadcast nightly reports based on protester video of demonstrations and the police response.

Police just tried to grin and bear it for the photo ops as protest groups descended on Manhattan this week. Though arrests approached 2,000, there were few signs of violence.

Still, the National Lawyers Guild claims its observers, armed with cameras, captured footage that documents illegal arrests. A special NYPD technical unit has deployed its officers to wade into demonstrations and record any confrontations with police.

Officials say they use the tapes for training, to identify suspects and to protect the department from lawsuits by showing that officers acted legally.

Video shot by both police and protesters at an anti-war protest



A member of Christian "GOP Jambores," of Southern California, speaks into a video camera at an anti-Bush demonstrator last week in New York. Demonstrators and police at the Republican National Convention stalked each other with cameras in hopes of catching their prey in compromising positions of misbehavior and abuse.

in Manhattan earlier this year was presented as evidence in a federal lawsuit challenging the NYPD's use of searches, mounted patrols and metal barrier pens to control crowds. A judge issued an order limiting the searches and putting restrictions on barrier pens.

Police insist the videotaping is

well within legal guidelines for monitoring political activity. They also deny allegations that they use crowd shots to compile databases of protesters.

But Bentley claims the cameras are as stifling to protesters.

"When people are trying to exercise their First Amendment rights, it has an intimidating effect," Bentley said.

Long week ends for anti-Bush protesters

BY MICHAEL WEISSENSTEIN
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — A week of rallies, marches and nearly 1,800 arrests left anti-Bush protesters drained and the city reeling at allegations that demonstrators were held too long in police custody.

Protesters gave the Republicans a mostly mellow send-off Thursday following days of raucous demonstrations. A noisy but nonviolent group gathered outside the convention site, and a candlelight vigil in Union Square later turned into a late-night march.

Some protesters spent almost three days in lockups, and city officials blamed delays on the sheer number of arrests. Lawyers for

the protesters alleged that people were detained to keep them off the streets during the president's speech, a charge the police department denied.

But all of the protesters — except six who were arrested on the convention floor — were freed by late Thursday after a Manhattan judge ordered their release and imposed a fine of \$1,000 for every protester held past his declared 5 p.m. deadline.

The judge, State Supreme Court Justice John Cattallo, did not revisit the issue of the fines after the protesters had been released.

City Corporation Counsel Michael Cardozo said the fines would consider its legal options when the fines are assessed.



New York City police officers restrain a demonstrator Tuesday in New York. One of the officers is seen holding the demonstrator. One of the officers is seen holding the demonstrator. One of the officers is seen holding the demonstrator.

Sanz takes home 4 Latin Grammys

BY AGUSTIN GURZA
AND RANDY LEWIS
Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES — Spanish singer-songwriter Alejandro Sanz dominated the fifth Latin Grammy awards at the Shrine Auditorium on Wednesday in a musically diverse telecast sprinkled with edgy political commentary and several instances of language excised by CBS censors.

Sanz, who had previously won seven Latin Grammys, swept all four categories in which he was nominated, including the top three: album of the year for his

critically acclaimed "No Es Lo Mismo," and received song of the year for the title track. The other winners included Brazilian newcomer Maria Rita and the late salsa queen Celia Cruz.

Some participants in the two-hour show displayed the extreme caution that's been expected on "live" national TV since Janet Jackson's breast-baring incident in January on CBS' Super Bowl telecast.

Comedian and host George Lopez, who was widely credited with helping boost the ratings of last year's Latin Grammy show,

came on stage riding a white horse and dressed in a traditional Mexican *charro* suit and sombrero.

He started with a crude remark in Spanish directed at President Bush that essentially told the president to "Cut it out, jerk." The comment was deleted from the telecast, which used the now-customary delay of several seconds to allow questionable content to be cut. Lopez then quipped, "For those of you who don't speak Spanish, I said 'Good luck in your future endeavors.'"

Brazilian newcomer Rita, who collected two awards, including

best new artist, for her "Maria Rita" album, said backstage she hoped the recognition would help other Brazilian performers. "The Grammys as a ceremony and as an institution is very respected all over the world," she said. "I think this is great for Brazilian music and musicians in general." The diversity of the music showcased during the telecast was captured in another moment backstage when Mexican pop singer Paulina Rubio demurely addressed the press, while rock bands Café Tacuba and Incubus were onstage performing a growing, bilingual jam that was bleated three times for television viewers.



Paulina Rubio performs "Perros" on Wednesday at the 5th annual Latin Grammy Awards in Los Angeles.

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Pacemaker in brain helps ease boy's pain

BY PATRICIA ANSTETT

Detroit Free Press

DETROIT — Ayad Kashat never expected to see his 10-year-old son walk down the center aisle at Mother of God Catholic Church in Southfield, Mich., leading his first holy communion class. Nolan Kashat had not walked in three years.

He had to drop out of regular classes last year because he could no longer sit erect in his seat. Stress and activity only added to the pain he lived with from dystonia, a movement disorder that causes painful, contorted postures.

Dystonia affects 300,000 people in North America. There was no effective treatment until now.

Now, Nolan is walking with the help of a walker, is riding a bike and is back in school — accomplishments he has achieved since his May 2003 surgery to implant a brain pacemaker.

Kashat, a sixth-grader at Warner Middle School in Farmington, Mich., is believed to be one of the youngest people — and perhaps the youngest — in the United States to undergo a procedure called deep brain stimulation.

Home videos from 2002 and early 2003 tell Nolan's story.

They show Nolan being home-schooled on his back on the living-room carpet, or propped up in a chair, unable to bend his arm.

Nolan underwent the surgery in at Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak, Mich., as part of a joint-movement disorders program with Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit.

"We accomplished what we didn't think was possible before," his doctor, Fred Junn, said.

Much like a pacemaker to control an irregular heartbeat, deep brain stimulation places electrodes in brain regions associated with specific movements. The electrodes are controlled by a battery pack implanted in the patient's chest. The procedure more typically is used to treat Parkinson's disease and tremor, the two most common movement disorders.

Patients with those conditions are lining up for the deep brain surgery. Unsubstantiated media reports have claimed that actor Michael J. Fox, a Parkinson's patient, is considering the surgery. Less known is whether the procedure benefits patients with dystonia. It will be years before medical journals will be able to report outcomes after the surgery.

Nolan's parents began to see signs of the disease when he was 5. They were savvy than most people in recognizing symptoms because Nolan's older sister, now 14, has a milder form of dystonia.

Typical signs include awkward hand positions and changes in writing.

Progressively, it affects arm movements, causes contorted postures and robs a person of the ability to walk or sit.

There's a test to diagnose hereditary forms, but many people don't get it because insurance plans don't cover it, Junn said.

The surgery, typically a three-hour procedure, often is performed while the patient is awake. Doctors place electrodes

into brain regions to see which functions the area regulates. Because of Nolan's age, they used general anesthesia during the operation.

The surgery carries risks: One in 100 patients develop brain hemorrhages, Junn said. It costs \$50,000-\$60,000 and sometimes is covered by insurance.

Though Nolan's recovery seems to have plateaued recently, Junn hopes to readjust the electrodes in the pacemaker to give him a new range of abilities. No one knows how much functional ability he will regain.

Nolan's biggest goal for now: "I'd like to be able to walk perfectly."



Nolan Kashat, 10, of Southfield, Mich., gets help Thursday from Cynthia Kyriakou at Warner Middle School in Farmington Hills, Mich. Kashat is believed to be the youngest person in the United States to have undergone deep brain stimulation.

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New electronics reign in back-to-school supplies

By May Wong
The Associated Press

SAN CARLOS, Calif. — For back-to-school shoppers, a new alphabet reigns, and it starts with E for electronics.

With camera cell phones and the Apple iPod music player topping student wish lists, some of the hottest gadgets have little to do with pen or paper, much less studying.

Altogether, electronics are expected to account for a quarter of the estimated \$40 billion U.S. parents and students will spend on back-to-school items this season, more than text-books, clothing, shoes and any other category, according to the National Retail Federation.

Just consider Claudine Bula Marasigan, a junior at the University of San Francisco. In the last three weeks, she spent about \$4,000 on electronic gear, including a surge protector, an \$760 for a digital camera and printer, \$1,600 on a new computer, and hundreds more on an external hard drive, DVD player, small portable TV and other gear — making the \$630 she spent on textbooks look like a bargain.

And the 25-year-old wasn't even done — she returned last week with her parents to the Best Buy store in San Carlos to get printer cartridges, a surge protector, and a stylish polka dot-patterned wrist rest for her computer keyboard.

"It's really expensive to send a child to school nowadays," said her father, Bill Marasigan, shaking his head.

Portable laptop computers are increasingly becoming a student staple, especially for the college-bound. Sales this season are

up about 30 percent from last year, according to the NPD Group market research firm.

Any models with built-in Wi-Fi are grabbing sales, analysts say, but some of the most popular include the Dell Inspiron 700M, the Apple iBook, and the Averatec C3500 Convertible, which combines a laptop and tablet PC with a display that swivels and folds down so notes can be scribbled directly onto the screen like an old-fashioned notepad.

lyst at NPD, which tracks retail store sales. "People used to bring 6-foot-high speakers to their dorm rooms, but now all their music just fits in their back pocket."

And though cell phones are already popular, students are upgrading to newer camera-equipped models with sharper color screens and loads of other features that are being heavily promoted by wireless carriers.

Max Butin of Santa Clara, a third-year student at Foothill College, hopes to replace his current cell phone with the hot new Motorola V710, which features a 1.2-megapixel camera. Bluetooth wireless technology, video capture and play-back and an MP3 player.

Butin, who already has a Bluetooth-equipped Tungsten T3 handheld computer from palmOne Inc., said he'd like his new cell phone to support the same wireless technology so he could easily transfer photos and other data between the two gadgets.

Other multifunctional communications devices drawing the back-to-school crowd include Danger Inc.'s Sidekick, which combines a phone with e-mail, instant messaging, Web-surfing, a digital camera, a personal organizer and games, said Tim Baran, principal analyst at Creative Strategies Inc.

"With stars like Jennifer Aniston carrying one, it's got the hip factor," Baran said.

In all, college- and school-bound students and their parents will spend \$10.6 billion on electronics as they head back to campuses this year, estimates the National Retail Federation.

Creating the mobile student

Portable laptop computers are increasingly becoming a 'must have' for students, especially for the college-bound. Some of the most popular include the Dell Inspiron 700M, the Apple iBook, and the Averatec C3500 Convertible.

| | Apple iBook G4 | Dell Inspiron 700M | Averatec C3500 |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Price | \$1,099.00 | \$1,304.00 | \$1,349.99 |
| Size (h x w x d) | 1.35" x 11" x 9.06" | 1.5" x 11.7" x 6.5" | 1.57" x 11.6" x 9.8" |
| Weight | 4.9 pounds | 4.1 pounds | 5.5 pounds |
| Screen | 12.1" | 12.1" | 12.1" |
| Processor | 1GHz PowerPC G4 | 1.6 GHz Intel Pentium M | Mobile AMD Athlon XP-M 2200+ |
| Memory | 256MB | 256MB | 512MB |
| Hard drive | 30GB | 30GB | 60GB |
| Operating system | Mac OS X version 10.3 "Panther" | Microsoft Windows XP | Microsoft Windows XP Tablet PC Edition |

SOURCES: Apple, Dell, Averatec

More than anything, students are clamoring for things that will enhance their lifestyle, if not their grades.

MP3 music players edged out cell phones to lead the list of items students wanted before returning to school on a recent online survey of 300 junior high and high school students by research firm InsightExpress.

The portable player everyone seems to want is Apple Computer Inc.'s top-selling iPod. Retailers say they cannot keep enough in stock to meet demand.

"The iPod phenomenon makes up the huge majority in that category," said Stephen Baker, an ana-



Marvin Phillips, who is working on an associated degree in gaming and casino management, demonstrates his card prowess in the casino lab at Morrisville State College in Morrisville, N.Y.

Gambling 101

Public colleges offer students new courses in gaming, casino business

By MICHAEL GORMLEY
The Associated Press

ALBANY, N.Y. — Marvin Phillips is spending a lot of time this summer at the Akwesasne Mohawk Casino, taking in some poker, roulette and live music. Not for pleasure — for college credit.

The 21-year-old from the St. Regis Mohawk Reservation will enter his senior year at Morrisville State College in September as part of a growing movement: College-educated blackjack dealers, casino security experts, restaurant and entertainment operators and gaming managers.

As states — mostly through Indian tribes — turn to casinos for gaming revenues, public colleges nationwide are increasingly offering courses and majors on casinos and gambling.

Phillips, a member of the Mohawk tribe, started as an information technology major but decided after a year to take gaming courses. He'll graduate with degrees in both.

"I did this for the most part because of the unique nature of the gaming industry and because there was a casino in my hometown," he said.

Over the past five years, gaming courses and majors have cropped up at colleges including San Diego State University, Michigan State University, Tulane University's University College in New Orleans, and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. They join the pioneering University of Nevada at Las Vegas and Reno, according to The Chronicle of Higher Education.

There are several proposed Indian casinos in the former Borchert Belt of upstate New York, though none has gotten final regulatory approval.

Courses at such schools include the study of gambling laws, operating on sovereign Indian land, and biometrics and "facial recognition" for casino security. Some students learn to be pit bosses, dealers and slot machine repairers.

Casino nights — using play money — are held on and off campus, often for charity. Field trips to Las Vegas, Atlantic City and the countless Indian-owned casinos in between are part of the course load.

"I spent 25 years in the business and I always wanted to bring education to the gaming industry," said Peter LaMacchia, director of the six-year-old casino studies at the State University of New York's Morrisville State College.

Morrisville is considering expanding casino-related studies, including a possible four-year degree in entertainment and gaming electronics.

Not everyone wants to let this trend ride.

"It's disgusting," said state Sen. Frank Padavan, a New York City Republican and vocal gambling opponent. "I think it's inappropriate for the state to become a vehicle by which people are in increasing numbers addicted... To have that policy reinforced through a curriculum in a public university is reprehensible."

The effort sometimes faces religious opposition and Mississippi prohibits casino courses in public colleges, said Richard Marksburg, dean of Tulane University's University College, which offers an associate's degree in casino studies.

"I think anyone who is doing it right now is in a pioneering effort and, anytime you're in a pioneering effort, respect isn't the first thing you're going to get," Marksburg said.

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Big brother takes front seat with drivers

Drivers trade privacy for insurance discounts

BY MATTHEW FORDAHL

The Associated Press

For two months, Jacob Seville's insurance company tagged along whenever he slid behind the wheel of his Honda Accord.

An electronic monitor the size of a matchbox closely tracked Seville's driving time and behavior. If he had a heavy foot or was a sudden braker, the auto data recorder would betray him.

Disconnected from the car and hooked to a PC, the device relayed Seville's digital driving diary to his auto insurer, Progressive Corp., with the click of a mouse during a pilot program earlier this year.

Although privacy advocates say the gadget snacks of Big Brother, Seville signed up and sent monthly data in hopes of saving money on his insurance bill. In return, he got a \$25 stipend and the promise of a 15 percent rate cut when the program launches.

Mayfield Village, Ohio-based Progressive is now promising discounts of up to 25 percent as it expands the so-called TripSense pilot program to 5,000 Minnesota customers. Seville, of Bloomington, Minn., is among them.

Progressive says it will use the data only for potential discounts and not to penalize customers whose devices reveal risky driving habits.

The monitoring has the potential to cascade through the insurance industry, said Charles Samuelson, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union in Minnesota.

"What happens is Progressive does this and gets a little bit of market share growth because they've lowered prices. Then it gets copied by other insurance companies," he said. "Pretty soon you don't have any choice."

Company spokesman William Perry says use of the auto data recorder will not be mandatory for Progressive customers.

Julie Rochman, spokeswoman of the American Insurance Association, denied suggestions that the entire industry would adopt the monitors.

Most companies are comfortable with their current systems for measuring risk, which typically lump drivers into groups based on a variety of factors, she said.

Many automakers already install so-called black boxes that record information for investiga-

tions into a crash or malfunction, although the data are not routinely transmitted. Last month, federal safety officials called on all automakers to install such devices.

Insurers abroad are trying the data recorders, too.

In August, Norwich Union, the United Kingdom's largest auto insurer, announced it was testing a "pay as you drive" program involving 5,000 customers, under an agreement with Progressive. It tracks via satellite, like the Progressive program in Texas.

Progressive's latest test in Minnesota, however, doesn't track where people drive, Seville said that would have been a show-stopper for him.

Progressive's Minnesota program requires a device that's plugged into a car's diagnostic port, available on all recent models.

Besides driving habits, the device monitors when it's connected and disconnected so drivers aren't tempted to unplug it before speeding up to 100 mph. If a user hasn't been connected 95 percent of the time, there's no discount.

But critics fear the information—or, worse, the lack of information from participants who don't



Jacob Seville of Bloomington, Minn., was part of a pilot project whereby Progressive Insurance placed black boxes beneath the dash boards of selected cars of Progressive customers.

want to send negative data—might be used against them.

And after the data are collected, individuals have no say in how it's used, Samuelson said.

Perry, Progressive's spokesman, said the company will only use the data to determine discounts. It won't be used to increase rates if it reveals a customer with a lead foot, he said.

"This is strictly a discount pro-

gram. We're very upfront with how we will and will not use the data," he said. "The only way we will use it is to look at it and say, 'Based on this, we're going to take X percentage off of the cost of your insurance for that vehicle.' Period."

And if the data is subpoenaed in legal action related to a driver's behavior? "Generally speaking, if we are subpoenaed, we comply with the law," Perry said.

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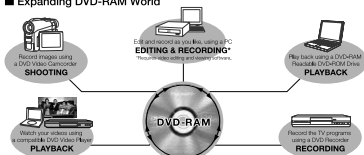
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RELIGION

Missionsaries prepare for tough assignment

BY RICHARD N. OSTLING

The Associated Press

JERSEY SHORE, Pa.—Seven young adults gather for informal Sunday worship in a two-room house fashioned from plastic sheeting and lumber that they cut themselves. Clad in shorts and jeans and clutching well-thumbed Bibles, they join in song to guitar accompaniment.

"Lord, reign in me, reign in your power, over all my dreams, in my darkest hour..."

The melody drifts across a surrounding makeshift encampment where 28 students have spent the last two weeks, the final exercise in a training program for the most exotic vocation imaginable.

This is the Missions Institute of New Tribes Mission, a yearlong boot camp that's far more rigorous than the usual orientation programs for foreign missionaries—and for good reason.

New Tribes specializes in evangelism among the 3,000 indigenous groups in the world's remotest tracts, places that remain isolated from the outside world and thus untouched by Christianity. Most operations are in Latin America, Southeast Asia and West Africa.

Teams of five or six missionaries leave the modern world and its conveniences behind to spend years living among tribespeople, learning their language and culture in order to translate the New Testament and parts of the Old Testament into their languages, most of which have never before been reduced to writing. The workers then teach reading and writing and establish churches to be run

by tribal converts.

Groups may spend 10 or 20 years, or even longer, in the same location. Think of it as career-length "Survivor"—only for real, as opposed to reality TV.

"We're way out there. We're like the Marines of the church," says Greg Sanford, the sophisticated but plainspoken director of the Pennsylvania Institute (there are also campuses in Durant, Miss., and Baker City, Ore.).

Despite the rigors and outsiders' accusations of cultural imperialism, New Tribes, based in Sanford, Fla., has assembled one of the largest missionary forces in the world: 3,200 workers in 17 nations, two-thirds of them Americans.

New Tribes is similar to the even larger Wycliffe Bible Translators, based in nearby Orlando, Fla., and the two agencies often cooperate in the field. Both are staunchly evangelical Protestant, and employ techniques pioneered by the late University of Michigan anthropologist Kenneth L. Pike to render oral languages into newly written form.

Enlistees aren't lured by the money. The mission's recommended pay for a couple without children is \$4,000 a month, before deductions for all benefits and business expenses. Candidates must raise that on their own through pledges from supporters. Some 20,000 U.S. congregations and thousands of individuals contributed \$41 million last year.

The work can be dangerous. During New Tribes' 62 years of operation, 87 missionaries have died in untimely ways, the vast majority in plane crashes during the early



Ruth Dickey, Heath Dickey, Karen Gainer, Levi Lenz, Robyn Lenz, Craig Schafer and Shelley Schafer, from left, hold a worship service at the Missions Institute of New Tribes Mission in Jersey Shore, Pa.

years. Twenty-two have been kidnapped, with six killed.

New Tribes recently intensified training in security measures and how to act if taken hostage.

Students are taught food preservation, breadmaking, haircutting, welding, logging, how to situate and frame a house, collecting and treating water, and the mysteries of plumbing, septic systems, solar engine maintenance, solar batteries and portable generators. Other institute classes, equally practical, teach time management, mediation in team conflicts, how to maintain morale and solid marriages under stress and child-rearing in

the bush. Missionaries' children typically receive home schooling for the lower grades, then attend New Tribes boarding schools.

Sanford carefully interviews all incoming candidates.

The crucial aspect of the training is more conceptual, teaching how modern missionaries should approach cultures that are radically different. The heart of it, Sanford says, is distinguishing between biblical basics and Western cultural assumptions.

Students spend two years at Bible college before the Missions Institute, and afterward move to the Language Institute in Camden-

ton, Mo.

While New Tribes' mission hasn't changed much since it was founded by Paul Fleming, a one-time missionary to British Malaya, technology has aided its work dramatically in recent years. The time required from the original contact with a tribe through completion of a Bible translation used to be 20 to 30 years. Now, thanks mainly to computers, that has been cut in half.

On the down side, a shrinking number of Americans are willing to volunteer. New Tribes was annually sending out some 200 new missionaries in the 1980s — this year, the number is 80.

Jewish scholar walks through latest afterlife views

BY RICHARD N. OSTLING

The Associated Press

Western religions that believe in one God traditionally teach that after the present life, individuals will exist eternally in resurrected bodies. Eastern religions believe the soul is embodied in either human or animal forms in numerous past and future lives.

Now comes Alan F. Segal of Barnard College in New York with the latest if not the word on the Jewish, Christian and Muslim concepts: "Life After Death: A History of the Afterlife in Western Religion" (Doubleday). As one of the leading Jewish analysts of first-century Judaism and Christianity, Segal is admirably equipped to provide a 731-page blockbuster on this central, powerful theme of civilization.

He tells how Christianity borrowed and reshaped the Jewish belief in a mind-plus-body afterlife and carried it to many nations, and how Islam did the same with the Christian belief. But before the Jews, resurrection was being taught by 21st-century people but it cuts to the heart of Christian tradition.

The Hebrew Bible (the Christians' Old Testament) contains only hints of an afterlife. The most explicit mention comes in one of the later books, Daniel, "and many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life and some to shame" (12:2-3).

Resurrection became pivotal in the New Testament, and on that Segal's interpreta-

tion disagrees with last year's equally hefty Christian treatment, "The Resurrection of the Son of God" (Fortress) by Church of England theologian Bishop N.T. Wright.

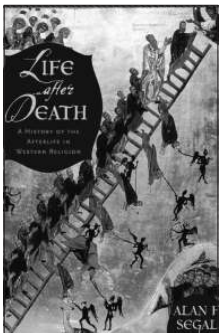
Like many liberal Christians, Segal sees a "flat contradiction" between the four Gospels and the letters of the Apostle Paul.

He says Paul thought Jesus' resurrected body was a "spiritual body" that believers would also receive in eternity. This resurrection was "bodily" but not "fleshy," Segal writes, arguing that contemporary Jewish concepts on the nature of the resurrected body were fluid. He says the Gospels broke with Paul and taught "a literal, physical body revived."

This may seem unimportant to many 21st-century people but it cuts to the heart of Christian tradition.

The key is 1 Corinthians 15, which was written a couple of decades after Jesus' resurrection and before the writing of the Gospels in the form we have them. Verse 44, describing the resurrection body, reads this way in the Revised Standard Version translation: "It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body."

Segal argues that if Paul had meant a



"Life After Death," published by Doubleday.

"fleshy" body is raised, he would have used a different Greek word.

Wright's detailed examination of this passage says English translations are misleading if they're taken to mean that the resur-

rection body is "non-physical" or something "you could not touch, could not see with ordinary eyesight."

He says Paul did not mean "spiritual" in the sense of non-physical but (as elsewhere in the apostle's writings) that God's Spirit operates upon aspects of the bodily life.

Therefore, in Wright's view, Paul and the Gospels agree that Jesus arose in a tangible body but one that was transformed and perfected, which is what the rest of us receive in eternity. Paul and other Jews rejected contemporary Greeks' elitist immortality of the mind or soul, in which bodies were unimportant.

That only scratches the surface of a complex and important discussion.

In modern times, belief in bodily eternal life has faded among Segal's fellow Jews and has shored some of that skepticism. But the concept, long an essential Jewish tenet, remains a pillar of Jewish Orthodoxy.

Segal says many modern Christians have retreated to the ancient pagan belief in which the body gets little attention, our souls are immortal by nature and all will be saved. He says it's a very appealing message to Americans.

Segal concludes that belief in eternal life seems to be an essential human need and ideal.

This concept, he writes, "exists in our minds rather than the world and gives a sense of meaning to our lives. Life beauty and justice, life after death is no less important for being unverifiable."

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When Kerry couldn't think

The writer of the Aug. 30 letter "Bush's behavior on 9/11" wants to blast President Bush for his actions and/or inaction on the morning of Sept. 11, 2001. John Kerry's recent statements about that morning, and the actions of the president, is as follows: "Had I been reading to children and had my top aide whis- pered in my ear, 'America is under at- tack,' I would have told those kids very politely, nicely, that the president of the United States had something that he needed to attend to, and I would have at- tended to it."

The big issue according to the writer of the letter, and apparently according to John Kerry himself, is that the president sat for 10 minutes after it became clear that America was under attack, listening to children read stories. President Bush has said that it was what seemed best to him. He claims he did not want to cause fear or panic. Someone else might say that he sat around, miserably failing in his duties as commander in chief, instead of jumping up to take care of business. Who can say for sure?

Or, of course, this comment by Kerry begs the question, what was John Kerry doing that morning? His own words, according to an interview on "Larry King Live": "I was in the Capitol. We'd just had a meet- ing. We'd just come into a leadership meeting in [South Dakota Democratic Sen.] Tom Daschle's office looking out at the Capitol. As I came in [Democratic Sen.] Barbara Boxer [of California] and Harry Reid [of Nevada] were standing there, and we watched the second plane come into the building. We shortly there- after sat down at the table and then we just realized, nobody could think, and then boom, right behind us we saw the cloud of explosion at the Pentagon, and then word came from the White House that they were evacuating, and we were to evacuate, and so we immediately began the evacuation."

So, the second plane hit at 9:03 a.m., ac- cording to a time line I read online. And the plane that struck the Pentagon hit at 9:38 according to the same time line. For 35 minutes, according to Kerry himself,

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he couldn't think. I suppose that hind- sight is 20/20 and we all can come up with ideas about what should have been done years after the fact. But considering he sat for 35 minutes unable to think, I sure am glad I didn't have to trust him to "attend to" anything important that day.

David M. Williamson

Kadena Air Base, Okinawa

End the five-year rule

Now that President Bush has an- nounced the realignment of U.S. forces abroad, there are many concerns among the ranks. Mine, being a Department of the Army civilian employee, is the five-year rule and how it affects my career progression.

Now that it appears many civilian posi- tions will either move statuses or simply be done away with, there should be no reason to maintain the five-year rotation rule. This policy has attributed to many workers remaining stagnant in their ca- reers, and one of our European lead- ers recently stated in a speech, "We can- not remain stagnant and hope to progress with the changing times." That should

also be true about the five-year rotation rule, which is some 50-odd years old.

Ending this rule will let Army civilian workers of more than five years to qual- ify for a broader range of jobs. I qualify in many fields of the GS system, however, there are few positions that are consid- ered mission-essential and thus enable one who has exceeded five years to do- duce the rule and excel despite having invested much in building a life in Eu- rope.

U.S. European Command leaders should seriously consider doing away with the rule and assisting dedicated Army civilian workers to further their ca- reers, perhaps in fields that show a more promising future. The media always talk about how realignment will affect sol- diers and family members, but let's not forget there is another part of our mili- tary machine that must not be over- looked, the Department of the Army civil- ians and their counterparts with the other services.

Charles C. Jones

Schweinfurt, Germany

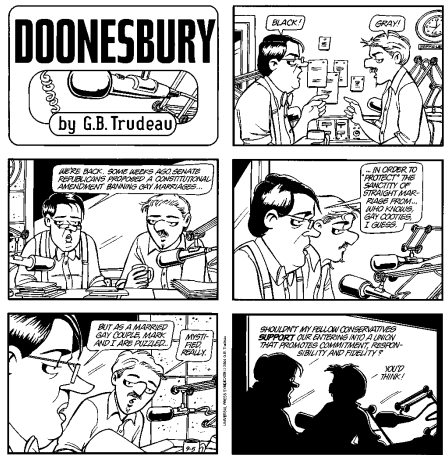
Deaths equally devastating

While I find it noble that the writer of the Aug. 6 letter "Sending Women to War Taking" has a sense of indignation at the wrong of human life during war, I feel it is wrong-minded to state that such loss is somehow more devastating if the soldier is female. The placement of women in harm's way is no more deliberate, on the part of the government, than is the loca- tion of a male soldier.

Also, I was no less informed of the re- sult of my decision to enlist in the mili- tary than were the thousands of individ- uals who took the oath alongside me, and no more or less ignorant of the facts. I was young, enthusiastic, idealistic, but not uninformed with regard to the ramifi- cations of my decision. I chose this life, and find disheartening to think that change is still looked upon as a violation of "historic norms."

Yes, keep the loss of life, but cele- brate the commitment of all soldiers standing for what they defend, no matter the gender.

Staff Sgt. Kimberleigh Brasley
Logistical Support Area Anconeta, Iraq



OPINION

What newspapers are saying at home

The following editorial excerpts are selected from a cross section of newspapers throughout the United States. The editorials are provided by The Associated Press and other statewide syndicates.

McCain looks great for '08
The Oregonian, Portland, Ore.

President Bush couldn't have a more important supporter, at a more important time, than Arizona Sen. John McCain [Monday] night the man who is arguably the most popular political figure in the country launched the Republican National Convention with a strong endorsement of the president. The speech would have been impossible to imagine four years ago, when McCain was so angry after losing to Bush in a bitter primary that he left the GOP convention in Philadelphia two days early, grudgingly returning only for the final night.

McCain isn't running for anything, at least not this year, but he's still a central figure in the 2004 campaign. He's a good friend of Democrat John Kerry, both men are decorated Vietnam veterans, and Kerry even tried to coax McCain into becoming his running mate. McCain's been a frequent thorn in the side of the Bush administration, criticizing Bush on taxes, climate change and limits on stem-cell research. He has described Bush's proposal to amend the constitution to ban same-sex marriage as "antithetical in every way to the core philosophy of Republicans."

And yet, McCain stood up in prime time, on the opening night of the Republican convention, saluted Bush for his courage in fighting terrorism and strongly endorsed his bid for re-election. ...

Meanwhile, McCain gets to demonstrate to the GOP faithful that he stands with them. McCain is 67, he's fought skin cancer, and he says he doesn't plan to run for president in 2008. But he does decide to run. He can't win without the support of the party establishment. ... The candidate who toured the nation in his "Straight Talk Express" bus in 2000 made at least one thing clear [Monday] night: He's a good Republican.

Even allies spy on one another
Dallas Morning News

Is there an Israeli spy in the Pentagon? It wouldn't be surprising. Whether Middle East analyst Lawrence Franklin, now at the center of an FBI probe, is an Israeli agent is another question, one that must not be dodged or handled with quiet diplomacy.

First, some caveats. It wouldn't be unprecedented to learn that our ally Israel has covert working in the Pentagon. In the 1980s, U.S. naval intelligence officer Jonathan Pollard sold out his country by providing reams of top-secret information to Israel. More commonly, American allies such as France, Taiwan and Japan are suspected of running economic espionage operations against the United States constantly and, so it is, in the current situation, it is.

Plus, the Franklin situation is not remotely as serious as the Pollard case. Mr. Franklin (who is not Jewish, by the way) ... is suspected only of passing a draft policy directive on Iran to members of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, a powerful Washington lobby, which in turn relayed it to the Israelis. ...

Given the close strategic collaboration that already exists between the United States and Israel, it's hard to understand why the Israelis would risk straining their special relationship by cultivating an intelligence source inside Donald Rumsfeld's office.

Besides, American taxpayers should very much want to know if a trusted ally



that gets a \$2 billion annual subsidy from them has a spy agent at the top levels of the U.S. government.

Complete border plan is better
Miami Herald

The Department of Homeland Security's new policy giving sweeping deportation powers to U.S. Border Patrol agents threatens the prospects of legitimate asylum seekers. Yet it does nothing to fix the underlying problem: a dysfunctional U.S. immigration system that fails to address the real reasons why up to 12 million undocumented immigrants live here.

What is needed is comprehensive immigration reform. A good start would be congressional approval of the bipartisan Ag-Jobs bill, which offers improved mechanisms for legally employing foreign workers and job protection for Americans. Another smart step would be to offer U.S. aid to spur jobs in regions, particularly in Mexico, that export workers to the United States. Encouraging employment abroad and orderly, controlled immigration across U.S. borders would free up the DHS and Border Patrol to focus on the nation's true enemies — the human smugglers, drug traffickers and terrorists. ... We share the concerns of human-rights groups and other advocates who say that the policy puts asylum seekers at risk. While it looks good on paper, the "expedited removal" policy already in use at airports and seaports has proven problematic. ... Asking [immigration officials] to sort out the asylum seekers is like asking a police officer to determine a suspect's guilt or innocence.

Working overtime to update
Rocky Mountain News, Denver

Until recently, federal overtime rules had not been altered for more than half a century, which is another way of saying they were an outdated muddle. ...

Now, however, it ought to be much clearer who is and is not entitled to time-and-a-half pay for hours worked in excess of 40 a week. The Bush administration deserves credit for tackling a job that was extraordinarily complicated and sure to bring wrathful accusations from political opponents.

The attack has happened, of course —

millions of workers, we are told, are facing a threat of layoffs. Hardly likely. The new rules actually extend eligibility for millions.

The rules do clarify that the law is not meant to apply to managers or professionals or people drawing extremely handsome salaries. ... It's true, too, that the ... possibility of unintended consequences cannot be dismissed.

But the Department of Labor has promised to keep a close eye on developments and to aim for prompt redress of anything that goes wrong. ... [The law mainly makes federal overtime rules more rational and comprehensible. Surely that is the sort of thing Congress is supposed to do.

Athens: Lord of the rings
The Morning Call, Allentown, Pa.

The world held its breath when the 2004 Olympics opened in Athens. There were concerns about some venues not being ready on time, transportation systems and infrastructure breaking down, and even the threat of terrorist attacks. By the time of [last] Sunday night's closing ceremonies, an interminable dose of Euro-pop music seemed to be the biggest problem.

The cloud of threatened violence persisted, but the Greeks and their allies kept athletes and spectators safe. ... It was expensive protection. ...

The Greeks were proud that they were able to bring the games back to their birthplace. ... Prime Minister Costas Karamanlis said [last] Sunday that he had followed in detail the many demands put on his relatively small nation to stage the Olympics. ... His conclusion: His country was up to the challenges. We agree.

Learn from Rumsfeld's failings
The Des Moines (Iowa) Register

There's plenty of blame to go around when it comes to the abuses against Iraqi prisoners in Abu Ghraib. ... The Pentagon-appointed commission that reviewed the abuse found the soldiers themselves responsible. ... Yet it was higher-ups who created conditions in Iraq that cultivated abuse.

So while seven soldiers face criminal charges, Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld and other top officials should

also have to face the consequences of their mistakes. Rumsfeld should resign.

The commission's report was another reminder of how many mistakes Rumsfeld has made in this war. The panel found too few American troops were deployed for the invasion, a failure to anticipate the level of resistance by insurgents and a lack of planning for a postwar occupation — all failures of Rumsfeld's leadership.

The father of one soldier involved in the abuse said his son was trained as a truck mechanic, not a prison guard.

But that truck driver became responsible for thousands of prisoners who, according to the report, consisted of "any and all suspicious-looking persons." ...

Rumsfeld's mistakes ... have cost lives. The mistakes have ruined other lives, including those of the soldiers who would not have committed abuse if they had been properly trained and supervised. It's time for Rumsfeld to finally take responsibility.

Don't add to voter fraud
Rochester (N.Y.) Democrat
and Chronicle

One hundred years ago, it wouldn't have been surprising for elderly black people to report that armed law enforcement officers had entered their homes and unjustly interrogated them about their votes.

It's shocking to hear that this may have happened recently in Orlando, Fla.

Attorney General John Ashcroft has been asked to investigate this issue. He should do so immediately. The interrogations might be, as Florida claims, part of a legitimate investigation of voter fraud. But if illegal behavior is found, the consequences must be severe.

With a close presidential election approaching, Ashcroft must send a strong message that voter intimidation is intolerable.

Unfortunately, the Florida situation is not unique. In South Dakota's June presidential primary, some American Indians were prevented from casting ballots if they didn't show identification. That is not required by state or federal law.

In Kentucky, some Republicans planned to put "vote challengers" in black districts on Election Day.

Both presidential candidates should denounce these kinds of tactics. Dishonest efforts to suppress minority votes sully democracy in America and must be stopped.

Bad air affects work

NH DURHAM — Preliminary results from a University of New Hampshire study show a link between declining worker productivity and poor air quality.

Researchers are surveying 500 workers at area hospitals and businesses once a week all summer about their health and how much time they've spent outside. Most of New Hampshire's poor air days fall in the summer.

Flashing out wolves

WY JACKSON — Bright lights and firecracker-like shotgun blasts are deterring wolves from further attacks on cattle in Grand Teton National Park, officials said. Ranchers haven't reported any destroyed animals since wolves killed a 400-pound calf Aug. 10.

Federal wildlife agents stationed near the herd began shining lights and exploding firecracker shells to chase wolves away.

Top choice for college

TN CHATTANOOGA — More high school students listed Tennessee colleges and universities as their top choice on the ACT college entrance exam this year, largely because of lottery scholarships, educators said. Although the number of students who took the ACT decreased this year, nearly 90 percent of the state's high school students still took the exam.

No copying in court

PA PHILADELPHIA — They try to drill it into you in elementary school: No copying other people's homework. But apparently a federal judge in western Pennsylvania didn't get the message.

A federal appeals court on Tuesday tossed out a ruling issued last year by U.S. District Judge Arthur J. Schwab after ruling that the judge had copied his opinion, nearly word-for-word, from a memorandum written by one of the attorneys in the case.

The 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said Schwab made only two substantive changes to the memo, other than minor changes for grammar and style, then signed it as his own opinion.

In doing so, the court said, Schwab failed to show that he put the necessary thought and jurisprudence into the ruling.

Tax fraud indictment

MO ST. LOUIS — Donald W. Sanders, a former Missouri Eastern Correctional Center inmate, was indicted for preparing and filing false income tax refund claims. Authorities say Sanders, 46, used correction fluid and a copy machine to create fake tax refund claims for himself and other inmates in 2002 while serving time.

The refunds ranged from \$454 to \$1,867.52.

Family home demolished

GA CUMMING — Three generations of James Wheeler's



AMERICAN ROUNDUP

family were sheltered by a farmhouse built by his grandfather about 80 years ago.

Now, there's only red dirt, weeds and scattered debris where the farmhouse once stood because a bulldozer accidentally razed the house for a new subdivision.

Dallas-based Centex Homes moved or demolished about 10 structures on the 83 acres around Wheeler's 22-acre plot to make room for about 335 homes.

The sheriff's office investigated, decided it was an accident and, therefore, a civil matter.

Native artifacts found

SD RAPID CITY — Crews found a survey for a highway project south of Rapid City found an archaeological site that experts say provides a unique glimpse into the lives of early people. Experts say the artifacts are between 10,000 and 12,000 years old. Archaeologist Jim Donohue said deeply buried campsites such as the one found by the survey crew are much less common.

Bar hours extended

KY LEXINGTON — University of Kentucky students returned to town last week to find longer drinking hours at area bars.

Lexington bar hours were extended Aug. 1 from 1 a.m. to 2:30 a.m.



First time at the fair

Xue Xiong and his wife, Mai Yia Thao, ride one of the water rides in the Midway at the State Fair in St. Paul, Minn. The Xions recently arrived from Thailand and this is their first fair. Son Chai Xiong is hiding behind them on the ride.

Students praised the change, but school administrators and police expressed caution. The university remains a dry campus, and there isn't an off-campus drinking policy, a school official said.

Laptops for students

MA BOSTON — Three state colleges are requiring new students to own laptop computers this fall under an initiative that will spread to other schools in coming years.

The requirement applies to first-year students this fall at Bridgewater, Framingham and Worcester state colleges. The rule will be extended next fall to Salem State College and Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts, and then in 2006 to Westfield State and Fitchburg State.

The rule does not apply to the University of Massachusetts system, and community colleges.

The colleges have a deal with Dell Inc. to offer packages including laptops, software and warranties to students for discounted prices of around \$1,200. Some students at Bridgewater, Framingham and Worcester have received extra financial aid to help cover the cost.

Radio host assaulted

WA SEATTLE — Police identified two people they believe were involved in an assault on radio personality Tom Leykis and detained one of them but released him without filing charges. Authorities were seeking a second person.

A 28-year-old Seattle man was taken into custody and released without being charged, police said, adding that the case remained under investigation.

Leykis, 48, based in Los Angeles and known for belittling callers, urging women to bare their breasts and other on-air flamboyance, was in town for a broadcast when he was knocked to the ground Aug. 23 outside a night spot, according to police reports.

He was treated at a hospital for a black eye and a cut above the eye that required 17 stitches.

His show has been syndicated since 1994.

Man can't send 'spam'

RI PROVIDENCE — A judge granted Verizon Wireless a permanent injunction against a Rhode Island man accused of sending millions of unsolicited text-message advertisements to cell phone customers in four states.

The injunction in federal court in Trenton, N.J., bans Jacob Brown from sending any more "spam" text messages. Verizon sued Brown in June after identifying him as the leader of a ring that sent the messages.

The messages were sent over the last several months to cell users in California, New Jersey, Massachusetts and Rhode Island. They advertised mortgage loans, products for losing weight, even adult Web sites.

Verizon had sought at least \$150,000 in damages, but none were awarded.



Andrew Witkowski of Peoria, Ill., takes to the air on a swing set while listening to music on his iPod at Bradley Park in Peoria.

Big swinger



House lost in fire

Firefighters with 14 fire units from three departments battle a blaze that engulfs a log cabin in Garden Valley, Texas. There were no reports of injuries; however, the home was a complete loss.



Corn harvest Ground-up, high moisture corn mixed with dry corn is compacted into a silo at the Haw Ranch Feedlot north of Turon, Kan. The feedlot expects to store more than 1.7 million bushels of high moisture corn that will be fed to their cattle.



Final days of summer BJ Schaltenbrand takes advantage of the final days of summer as he waterskis a slalom course on the Allegheny River near Blackenridge, Pa.



Dasher board wash Anthony Anderson, a maintenance tech with the City of Decatur, Ill., uses a scrubber to remove hockey puck markings from dasher boards of the ice rink in Decatur.



Soccer by sunset Under a brilliant sunset, Miranda Courteaux, 8, blocks a soccer ball during a night practice at the youth soccer fields in Ormond Beach, Fla. Miranda is goalie for the Waves soccer team, which is made up of girls under 10 years.

Trail construction halted

RI CUMBERLAND — American Indian artifacts may be present where work on a state-funded trail was halted, a preliminary report said. Construction of sections of the 1.4-mile Monastery Loop Trail has disturbed "potentially significant archaeological resources," the Public Archaeology Survey Team said.

Members of the Seaconke Wampanoag tribe said the findings bolster their claim to land that includes town-owned property where the trail is located.

Kids forced to walk

ID HARRISON — Students are getting some exercise on their bus ride to and from school. Weight limits on a trestle bridge are forcing students to get off the bus, walk over the bridge, then get back on after the bus makes it across. The weight limit for the one-lane bridge that crosses the Coeur d'Alene River here is 10 tons. The school buses weigh up to 9 tons without students.

Men protest shelter

NH MANCHESTER — Two aldermen are planning community meetings next month to try to prevent a federal halfway house from opening in the city. Bill Shea wrote a letter against a proposed site in his ward and Frank Guinta received more than 100 signatures on a Web site he's set up to oppose a halfway house anywhere in the city.

Computer registry coming

MS JACKSON — Secretary of State Eric Clark is seeking proposals from companies to establish a computerized, statewide voter roll to help ensure more accurate elections in Mississippi.

He hopes to have the computerized registry up by the June 2006 federal primaries. Records show 34 of Mississippi's 82 counties have more registered voters than people who are old enough to vote.

Disabled patients moved

IN INDIANAPOLIS — The Muscatatuck State Developmental Center property in Jennings County will be used for national homeland security training. Patients at the center for the developmentally disabled are scheduled to leave by Jan. 1. Most will be moved to small private group homes. Gov. Joe Kernan plans to travel to the site, about 80 miles southeast of Indianapolis, Wednesday to announce the agreement.

Voter info not on Web

NV LAS VEGAS — The Clark County election office will remove voter addresses and phone numbers from its Web site, Registrar Larry Lomax said. Officials posted the public information after receiving requests for the data from politicians and campaign groups. But media attention led to complaints from the public. The information will still be available at the election office.

Prison consultant hired

OH COLUMBUS — State prison officials are hiring a consultant to find better suicide pre-

vention methods after nine inmates killed themselves this year. The latest was Cody Shreves, 21, who was found hanging in his cell at the Dayton Correctional Institution. Ten inmates killed themselves in 1999, the worst year for suicides since the state started tracking the problem in 1993.

Tooth found in soup

UT SALT LAKE CITY — A judge says the lawsuit just didn't have teeth.

Third District Judge L.A. Dever dismissed a lawsuit brought by Tina Keeney, who claimed emotional distress after alleging a can of Campbell's chicken noodle soup she split with her 13-month-old son contained a human tooth.

"I just don't eat," said the 37-year-old West Jordan resident. Campbell offered to cover the cost of the soup — plus a little extra, and sent her a \$10 check. The company also wanted her to mail in the tooth. Keeney took it to a lawyer instead, and the lawsuit was filed in September 2003.

Man's ashes land in attic

OR FOREST GROVE — An unwelcome guest recently crashed into Barbara Vreeland's home: the cremated remains of a Washington man.

The 46-year-old man died of natural causes in June. He wanted to be cremated and have his ashes scattered over Mount View Memorial Gardens, a cemetery near Vreeland's home. Family members told police the bag of ashes slipped as they were circling the cemetery in a small plane they had hired for the day.

The 4-pound bag crashed through Vreeland's roof and landed in the attic.

Bathroom is off limits

MT HELENA — Even if you're puking, the potty is private, the Montana Supreme Court has ruled.

The high court says a police officer went too far when he walked in on a young woman while she was vomiting into the toilet during a loud house party.

The 6-1 decision said the constitutional intrusion into the privacy evidence that Rebekah Smith had been drinking illegally — she was only 18 at the time — could not be used to prosecute her.

Merely hearing someone vomiting behind a closed door was not sufficient reason for Dillon Police Officer Don Guberson to open the door, the court said.

Guiltily in wife's murder

NY RIVERHEAD — A man who claimed his wife committed suicide by shooting herself three times — once in the back — was sentenced to 25 years to life in prison for murder.

Eric Rose, 46, was convicted in May. He maintained his innocence at sentencing, saying "It's very hard for me to show remorse for a crime I did not commit."

Prosecutors argued that Rose killed his wife, Wendy, in 2002 to collect \$500,000 in insurance.

Wendy Rose, 53, suffered a gunshot wound to the head, a gunshot wound to the head and another wound in her back.

Stories and photos from wire services

YOUR MONEY



Dick Andersen, 55, of Littleton, Mass., sits in his office at HighStreet Networks in Tewksbury, Mass., Tuesday. After 20 months of unemployment, Andersen landed a job in December as vice president of marketing at the company, which makes software products.

For workers 50 and older, finding job is no easy trick

BY EILEEN ALT POWELL
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — When the telecommunications startup firm Tom Gaffuri worked for went belly up in the last recession, he found himself without a job in his mid-50s.

Gaffuri, who is now 57, said he spent about a year looking for work, answering ads and tapping in to his network of business associates, but without success.

"As you get older, you find that your network has gone on to do other things outside of your core industry, or your network is barely hanging on to their own jobs, or your network is unemployed just like you," Gaffuri said. "It's difficult."

In a nation where people define themselves by what they do, losing a job can be devastating to both a worker's ego and finances. That's especially true for people in their 50s, the age when they should be reaching peak incomes — and putting aside peak retirement savings.

The loss of a job can turn their family's finances upside down.

Getting a new position generally takes longer for men and women who are 50 and older than for other age groups, and they often must take a pay cut to get new jobs.

For Gaffuri, of Fairfax, Va., the economic blow was cushioned because his wife, Mariann, continued in her sales job. Still, they've had to make "brutally honest assessments" of their financial situation, cutting back on things like eating out and vacations.

"We also understand that the time line for achieving our objective — that is, you don't have to work but you still want to work — has extended," he said.

"Every day I don't have income, it extends another day."

For the last year, he's been building his own management consulting firm, a project requiring "an incredible amount of sweat equity," he said.

Karen Hochman, head of the national Marketing Executives Networking Group, said some older workers who are laid off or fired can get very depressed or even suicidal, fearing they'll never recover from the job loss.

"Baby boomers expected to be working until age 65," she said.

"No one said, 'At the age of 50, you're too old to seek employment, and you're going to be roaring through your retirement savings.'"

Others, she said, are so used to functioning within a corporate environment that they can't see their way clear to "rein-vent" themselves, say by buying a franchise or setting up a small business.

There also are workers who find they need new skills.

Marion Elizabeth Mein, 54, of New York, handled the legal operations for a physicians' group before she lost her job a year ago. A single woman, she's had to take in a roommate to help cover the rent and other bills while she hunts for new work — or possibly a new career.

Unable to find a similar position, Mein is now thinking she should go back to school to get into a different field, perhaps in teaching or medical technology.

But that has drawbacks. "Going back to school is a very expensive proposition," she said. "And I'm already worried I'll never recover the losses from losing this job."

Another problem for those who find themselves unemployed in their 50s is discrimination — but not necessarily about age, said economist Richard Bayer, chief operating officer of the Five O'Clock Club, a career counseling and outplacement firm based in New York.

SEE JOBS ON PAGE 27

Good investments far different from expensive ones

Susie Besaw from the book "The Savvy Sailor's Spouse," is new to the military lifestyle but is eager to learn more about how to manage her family and her new lifestyle through the monthly Family Readiness Group meetings of her husband, Jake's, new command. Last week Susie celebrated getting a job.

After we cleared the dishes, we all retired to the family room.

"Great dinner, Maggie," Jake said.

"Yeah, honey," Jim agreed. "Thanks for not making it last night so I could enjoy it tonight."

"You're lucky," she replied. "Next time you bail out on dinner with an hour's notice, I'll give you your portion to Jake and Susie."

"Did you have a meeting on base last night?" Jake asked.

"I got invited to a free dinner seminar out in town by one of the guys at work late yesterday afternoon because he had an extra ticket from somebody who had canceled," Jim replied.

"What was the seminar on?" I asked.

"Some company was trying to teach us about mutual funds and life insurance," Jim replied. "Want to see the material I brought back? It looks impressive."

Jake seemed concerned and replied, "Yeah, can I see it?"

Jim went into the back room and returned with a flashy folder. Jake pulled out the paperwork and looked at it intently for a couple minutes as the rest of us talked about our day. Then Jake put everything back into the folder.

"They're trying to sell contractual mutual funds and whole life insurance," Jake said. "There's a reason they're offering the free meal: They are planning on making the difference up on the products they sell you. Look out."

Jim looked surprised and asked, "What do you mean? They seemed like good guys. The free dinner was excellent — but not as good as Maggie's, of course."

Maggie poked Jim in the ribs.

"My old senior chief taught me about the difference be-

tween a good investment and an expensive one," Jake said. "He said to stick with conservative and inexpensive mutual funds when I invested and buy term life insurance when life insurance was required."

"What's a conservative and inexpensive mutual fund?" Jim asked.

"One example of a conservative mutual fund is called an equity-income fund," Jake replied. "An equity-income fund normally consists of a number of large company stocks paying dividends. It's inexpensive when its fees are less than 1 percent of your investment and a year and there are no loads to buy them."

"What are fees and loads?" Jim asked.

"All professional investors charge annual management fees for their services," Jake replied. "Some mutual-fund companies have another charge called a load that is just a sales commission to financial advisers if they recommend and you buy the company's mutual funds."

"What's the benefit of paying a load?" Jim asked.

"There isn't any I can think of," Jake replied. "You're going to pay an annual management fee to both load and no-load mutual funds — and even worse a load fund may create a conflict of interest."

"What conflict of interest?" Jim asked.

"Anytime you pay anyone a commission based on how much and what they sell you, there is a possible conflict of interest," Jake replied. "Commissions may create an incentive for any adviser to sell you the mutual funds with the highest loads even if the mutual fund is not the right one for you."

Next week Jake talks about contractual mutual funds.

Copies of Ralph Nelson's books — "The Savvy Sailor" and "The Savvy Naval Officer" — can be purchased by writing to Susan Wilson, author of "The Savvy Naval Officer," P.O. Box 10071, Rockville, MD 20849 or online at www.savvyonweb.com.

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Money U.



Ralph Nelson

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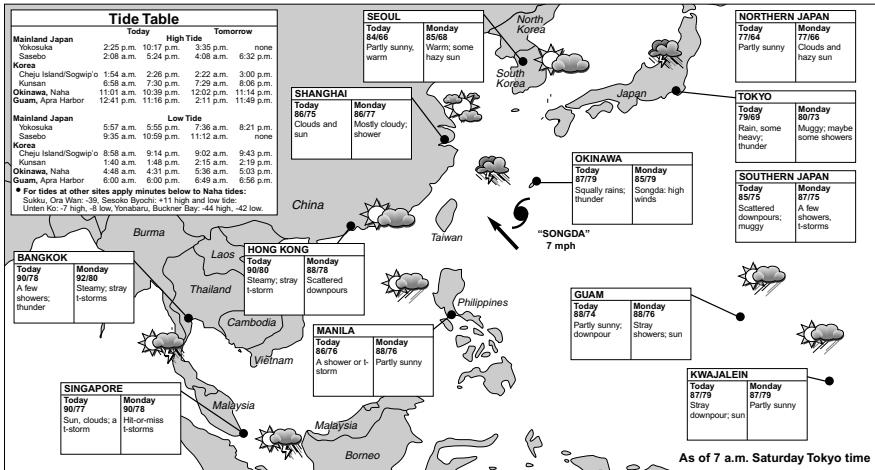
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The Pacific Forecast

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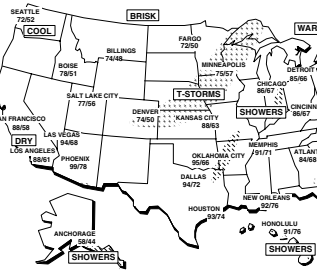
Extended Forecasts

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|--|
| TOKYO Tuesday: Thunderstorms, high 85, low 74. Wednesday: Rain, high 80, low 72. | KADENA Tuesday: Showers, high 89, low 81. Wednesday: Showers, high 91, low 81. | SEOUL Tuesday: Mostly cloudy, high 82, low 65. Wednesday: Partly sunny, high 84, low 64. | MANILA Tuesday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 88, low 76. Wednesday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 88, low 76. | HAGATNA Tuesday: Showers, high 88, low 76. Wednesday: Showers, high 88, low 76. |
|---|---|---|---|--|

Friday's USA Temperatures

| CITY | HIGH/LOW | CITY | HIGH/LOW |
|----------------|----------|----------------|----------|
| Albuquerque | 87/63 | Los Angeles | 81/64 |
| Amarillo | 88/62 | Little Rock | 89/67 |
| Anchorage | 61/42 | Louisville | 81/68 |
| Ashville | 80/60 | Miami | 91/71 |
| Baltimore | 82/63 | Milwaukee | 80/63 |
| Birmingham | 85/69 | Nashville | 83/67 |
| Bismarck | 79/51 | New York | 82/68 |
| Boise | 69/45 | Omaha | 91/66 |
| Boston | 81/66 | Orlando | 92/79 |
| Brownsville | 89/75 | Philadelphia | 83/66 |
| Buffalo | 83/62 | Phoenix | 103/80 |
| Burlington | 81/61 | Pittsburgh | 82/62 |
| Charleston, SC | 86/73 | Portland, OR | 72/56 |
| Charlotte | 84/66 | Portland, ME | 81/61 |
| Chicago | 84/63 | Salt Lake City | 67/46 |
| Columbus, OH | 84/65 | St. Louis | 85/68 |
| Duluth | 85/60 | San Antonio | 87/72 |
| El Paso | 93/67 | San Diego | 73/64 |
| Cleveland | 84/60 | San Juan | 92/77 |
| Helena | 64/41 | Tampa | 94/76 |
| Indianapolis | 81/65 | Tulsa | 91/69 |
| Jacksonville | 87/75 | Washington | 84/66 |
| Kansas City | 88/66 | Wichita | 92/68 |

Sunday, September 5



U.S. Extended Forecast

Hurricane Frances will impact Florida on Sunday with gusty winds and heavy rain. Meanwhile, the Northeast will enjoy partly sunny skies. An area of high pressure will filter Canadian air into New England and produce a cool day. A cold front draped over the Midwest and extending into the Texas Panhandle will cause showers and a few thunderstorms in that region. Moist air being drawn northward ahead of the front will trigger afternoon thunderstorms in areas of Michigan into Mississippi. Temperatures in the Southwest will not be as hot as the southern extent of the front crosses the region. Behind the front, an area of high pressure will keep the Northwest cool.

Sunday's Pacific Temperatures

| CITY | HIGH/LOW | CITY | HIGH/LOW |
|--------------|----------|-----------|----------|
| Bangkok | 90/78 | Iwakuni | 81/72 |
| Beijing | 85/68 | Kadena AB | 87/79 |
| Camp Casey | 84/66 | Kunsan AB | 85/69 |
| Christchurch | 49/29 | Kwajalein | 87/79 |
| Diego Garcia | 83/75 | Manila | 86/76 |
| Hagatna | 88/74 | Misawa AB | 73/63 |
| Hanoi | 92/79 | Osan | 86/67 |
| Hong Kong | 90/80 | Perth | 64/43 |
| Honolulu | 91/76 | Pusan | 81/71 |

Sunday's World Temperatures

| CITY | HIGH/LOW | CITY | HIGH/LOW | CITY | HIGH/LOW |
|-----------|----------|--------------|----------|-------------|----------|
| Acapulco | 91/75 | Budapest | 75/53 | Kabul | 95/57 |
| Athens | 79/57 | Buenos Aires | 72/65 | Kiev | 64/44 |
| Auckland | 54/44 | Cairo | 96/66 | Kuwait | 112/82 |
| Baghdad | 115/80 | Cancun | 86/73 | London | 80/63 |
| Barbados | 89/75 | Cape Town | 57/37 | Madrid | 70/56 |
| Barcelona | 76/62 | Geneva | 77/63 | Mexico City | 72/55 |
| Berlin | 79/63 | Havana | 75/59 | Montreal | 72/58 |
| Bermuda | 84/70 | Jerusalem | 87/59 | Mogadishu | 88/73 |
| Brussels | 81/63 | Johannesburg | 79/50 | Moscow | 60/43 |
| | | | | Warsaw | 72/54 |



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Sunday Horoscope

The Gemini moon kicks off this festive weekend with a friendly buzz.

Who is doing what with whom seems to be everyone's business, and this makes for a lot to talk about when the gang gets together.

With the upcoming Venus transit, what starts as a bit of information could grow into a full-blown scandalous rumor by tomorrow.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (September 5). You're fearless in so many ways this year.

The next month shows you putting your self-concept on the line and blossoming into a fuller person because of this bravery.

Next month, diversity, experiment, and take chances—especially in matters of education and employment. Love with an Aries or Cancer is terrific.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Just when you think you can predict loved one's behavior, this person will surprise you.

So don't make assumptions, and take nothing for granted. Careful planning is favored this afternoon. Picture a perfect week ahead!

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You may think about what you deserve and don't deserve, but the universe is much more broad-minded about this concept.

Perhaps you don't have to work for every little bit of acceptance. You are, and therefore, you are loved.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Your independent spirit is hyperactive. You'll feel like it's you against the world, but it's not.

You're working on a team, and your team includes people you don't even know. Think of new people you meet as being on your side.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Your critical voice steers you well toward becoming an expert, as opposed to someone who merely does a task well.

But tell that internal chatterbox to take a break for a while this afternoon. There is perfection in imperfection.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Life provides challenges, but like a body builder who is determined to become freakishly strong, you might pile on more weight (so to speak).

Be extremely judicious about how

far you push yourself, or you'll get hurt!

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You may require a last-minute rescue. This endsures you to your rescue.

Don't worry so much about what the score is. Sometimes, you repay a good deed by doing good in the future for someone else. Things always work out.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Remind yourself of all that's going right for you—that's a lot!

This helps build your inner stability. Once bolstered, you'll feel confident enough to explore the world and engage people who are very different from yourself.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Excessions will be made in your favor all day long.

In fact, the only pressures you feel are self-imposed. Leave room for creativity in your own schedule, and give children plenty of room for self-expression, too.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Others depend on you to set them on the right path. Unfortunately, this is something every person has to do for himself or herself.

Trying to propel someone into an attitude only causes resistance. Get on with your own life.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You are fascinated by mysteries and rituals and will create some for yourself. Having your own special and private way of doing things can strengthen your relationship with yourself, allowing you to have more to give others.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Excitement sweeps you into a different mind-set—this is an eventful day!

An embryonic hope is uncovered tonight. Now that you know what your unconscious desire is, you must either act on it or release it.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). If you get the chance to mix and mingle with the unknown, don't hesitate to say "yes." New people give you the opportunity to conceive yourself anew. You could present a side of yourself that surprises even you.

from the 1871 work "Four Years at Yale" offers confirmation. "Dog (means) style, splash. To put on dog is to make a flashy display, to cut a swell." Of course, the expression may have existed before collegians put on the dog (in which case some other long forgotten custom may account for the phrase), but we have no earlier example of the phrase.

This column was prepared by the editors of Merriam-Webster Collegiate Dictionary, Tenth Edition. Readers may send questions to Merriam-Webster's Wordwatch, P.O. Box 217, Federal St., Springfield, Mass. 01102.

Joyce Jillson



Actions during stick-up ties up store owner's emotions

Dear Abby: My husband and I own a small tennis supply shop. "Jane," a 16-year-old high school student, works part time for us. Although I am 30, Jane and I have been like sisters. She is a beautiful, responsible young lady, but she has a quick temper. An incident two weeks ago has now strained our relationship.

Jane and I were closing the shop one evening when a man came into the store, flashed a gun and demanded our money. He took us into the back room, produced a roll of duct tape and cords, told us to lie face down and said he wouldn't hurt us.

Jane suddenly wheeled around and clipped him in the jaw.

Hard! The man was at least 6 feet tall, easily half a foot taller than either of us and looked ready to pummel her.

I stepped between them and told Jane to just tie us up and leave, at which point he obliged. We were then thoroughly taped, gagged and hogtied with the cords. Despite our valiant efforts neither of us could get loose. My husband came looking for me about two hours later and found us still tightly bound.

Dear Annie: I am the mother of two children, ages 22 and 16. My 16-year-old daughter, "Jeanine," is a bright young woman. She has good friends, good grades and is an altogether cheerful person.

For the past three years, I've noticed that whenever Jeanine is alone, she seems to be hersele. I let her. I have walked by her room while she's making her bed or choosing clothes, and it seems as if she's having a conversation with someone else. These aren't one-sided conversations. It's as though she is explaining something to someone, and then responding as that person. I wonder if this is a sign of loneliness, depression, or worse, schizophrenia.

I am reluctant to seek counseling for Jeanine because my husband is against it and I'm not sure we could afford it. Can you please give me some information so I know what I'm looking for and where to seek help?

— Worried Mom
Dear Worried: Talking to oneself is fairly common and usually harmless. For many, it's simply a way to sort out a problem. Others

Since that evening, Jane has been angry. She believes we could have fought him off. Although I think she's a little embarrassed about being tied up, I know he would have clobbered us both at the very least, and I feel I did the right thing. What do you think, and how can I restore the relationship between Jane and me? Will I still feel ...

— Bound and Gagged in Pennsylvania

Dear Bound and Gagged: Jane has displaced her righteous anger toward the armed robber onto you. She took a terrible risk by striking out at someone who was holding a gun on the both of you. It could have provoked a tragedy.

Because you still feel "bound and gagged," you could benefit from counseling with a therapist who specializes in post-traumatic stress. And while you're at it, take Jane with you. She needs to talk and refocus her anger where it belongs. And you need to put this unfortunate incident behind you.

P.S. Since you now know from experience that you are vulnerable, consider installing a silent alarm in your store.

use self-talk as motivation or to reinforce positive attitudes.

If possible, listen to Jeanine's conversations. Is she arguing a position, pro and con? Is she telling herself she can do better? These conversations are OK.

However, sometimes self-talk is used negatively ("I'm so stupid"), and although the process is normal, the effect can be quite damaging to one's self-esteem. You'd need to step in and help her work on that.

In terms of mental health, the time to worry is when Jeanine believes someone else is talking to her. If you are concerned this may be the case, try to discuss it with her, and if necessary, ask your family doctor to refer you to a therapist, or check United Way and the YMCA for a low-cost referral.

Dear Annie: My husband's old college buddy, "Ralph," and his wife are coming to our town next week. Ralph asked if we could put them up for a night or two, along with their teenage niece and nephew. We have only one spare bedroom, and I said we'd get back to them.

This same couple stayed with

Dear Abby: I am an average-looking girl. I'm not in the popular group. I used to let a classmate, "Sean," copy my homework because I'm nice and sometimes give too much.

Then one day, in the middle of class, he asked me out.

He could have asked me before or after class, or during lunch, but he did it in the one class full of popular people.

The entire class hushed, and his best friend was beside him.

I turned him down because he's popular and my parents wouldn't let me date. I didn't trust him because he's popular and I'm an average girl. I like him, but I was afraid it was some kind of trick—or even a bet. Since I have given him a chance, even though he's a popular boy?

— Second Thoughts in Florida

Dear Second Thoughts: Everyone deserves a chance, even a popular boy. However, since your parents feel you are not ready to date, you did the right thing by saying no because your parents would have allowed you to go anyway.

Letters for this column—with your name and phone number—should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 6940, Los Angeles, CA 90069. Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at <http://www.pittsburgh.com/dearabby>. Universal Press Syndicate

Otherwise bright, healthy teen often talks to herself

Dear Annie: I am the mother of two children, ages 22 and 16. My 16-year-old daughter, "Jeanine," is a bright young woman. She has good friends, good grades and is an altogether cheerful person.

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This same couple stayed with

us several years ago, and after feeding and housing them for a week, they didn't even offer to take us out for single meal. When we were in their city a few years ago, they were "unavailable" to us.

My husband and I both work. A mid-week visit would upend our routine, and I don't like to leave people in our home when we're not around. Ralph is quite well-to-do, and they could easily stay in a hotel. Having four overnight guests is a lot of work on my part (my husband doesn't help with the cooking and cleaning). So, Annie, am I a party pooper, or are they just moochers?

— Not in the Mood

Dear Not: It doesn't have to be either. They are hoping to stay with friends, and it is too much work for you to accommodate them.

Fine. Tell them you're so sorry, but that's a very busy week and you simply don't have the room. If you want, offer to treat them to dinner instead. (Make sure your husband backs you up on this.)

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net or write to Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Suite 500, Los Angeles, CA 90045.

Creators Syndicate

Yale students put on the dog

Whenever my wife and I dress up for a night on the town, I say that we're "putting on the dog." Where does this unusual expression come from?

The phrase "putting on the dog" actually traces back to the 19th century, when college students at Yale are said to have worn high stiff collars known as "dog collars" as part of required dress on formal occasions. This custom may account for the use of the phrase "put on the dog" to mean "get dressed up in elegant finery." The following excerpt

from the 1871 work "Four Years at Yale" offers confirmation. "Dog (means) style, splash. To put on dog is to make a flashy display, to cut a swell." Of course, the expression may have existed before collegians put on the dog (in which case some other long forgotten custom may account for the phrase), but we have no earlier example of the phrase.

This column was prepared by the editors of Merriam-Webster Collegiate Dictionary, Tenth Edition. Readers may send questions to Merriam-Webster's Wordwatch, P.O. Box 217, Federal St., Springfield, Mass. 01102.

Annie's Mailbox



FACES 'N' PLACES

Schram leaves cast of USA's "Monk"

Actress **Bitzy Schram** and "Monk" have parted ways. The critically acclaimed USA Network series that stars **Tom Shalhoub** as an obsessive-compulsive private eye is removing Schram's character, Monk's personal nurse.

"Monk" has decided to go in a different creative direction with some of its characters. Bitzy Schram will not continue with the cast," USA Network announced Tuesday. "We thank her for her notable contributions and wish her the very best."

Representatives from Schram's management company, Untitled Entertainment, released a statement as well. "Bitzy Schram and USA Network have amicably decided to go their own separate ways and Ms. Schram will not be returning to the television series 'Monk.'"

She wishes everyone connected with the show continued success and looks forward to pursuing the various opportunities before her."

Schram

John Kelley, a spokesman for USA, said the network has yet to develop what the new direction for the show will be.

It is a notable change of circumstance given that earlier this year, Schram was nominated for a Golden Globe for her performance as **Sharon Fleming** on "Monk."

She'd been with the show since its beginning in 2002. "Monk" is now in the middle of its third season, with new episodes to return in January. Shalhoub won an Emmy for his role as **Adrian Monk** in 2003.

Court rules against Kilmer in tax suit

The state Court of Appeals in **Santa Fe, N.M.**, has ruled against actor **Val Kilmer** and his ex-wife, actress **Joanne Whalley**, in a dispute over a tax refund of more than \$300,000 owed by the couple.

The court said Tuesday the Taxation and Revenue Department had no authority to act on the refund claim because the time period for doing so had expired.

Kilmer, who stars in **Oliver Stone's** upcoming film, "Alexander," has a ranch near **Santa Fe**.

The refund claim was for \$304,217 in personal income taxes paid for the year 1995. The couple said they were due the refund because Whalley — who had filed for divorce — had moved to **California** in the latter part of the year.

The claim was filed at the end of 1999, after California tax officials made a preliminary determination that Whalley was not a California resident as of August 1995.

The amended 1995 New Mexico return claiming the refund, which was filed by the couple's accountant, wasn't processed because the department lost it.

In addition, for three months in early 2000 the agency decided to delay work on prior-year claims while it caught up with processing the current returns.

Under state law, if the department doesn't approve or deny a claim within 120 days, taxpayers then have 90 days to either file a protest or go to court. Kilmer and Whalley did neither, and the 210-day window for the department to act on a claim expired, the court said, upholding a department hearing officer's ruling.

The Legislature "intended a clear and definite outer limit of 210 days on the department's authority to act on a claim for refund," the court held.

Witherspoon baffled by tabloid attention

Reese Witherspoon doesn't understand the appeal of tabloid magazines.

"I can't believe somebody is so interested — particularly in all the pictures of me at the grocery store or at preschool," says Witherspoon, who stars as **Becky Sharp** in **Mira Nair's** new film, "Vanity Fair."

"It's like every day I'm wearing the same sweat suit. It's like, 'Is this really interesting? And to who?'" she told reporters recently, according to **AP Radio**.

The "Legally Blonde" actress says she and her husband, actor **Ryan Phillippe**, try to laugh at the photos and stories. "It's pretty funny, and it's amazing the kind of things that people can make up in their minds," she says.

Witherspoon and Phillippe, who appeared together in 1999's "Cruel Intentions," have two children — daughter **Ava**, born in 1999, and son **Deacon**, born last year.

"I'm busy with the kids and I want to spend all the time I have with them," she says.

"I have to be very particular about what I do because I only do one movie a year."

Stories and photos from The Associate Press

New guy funks up Metallica



Photo courtesy of ABC

Bassist Robert Trujillo, left, made a smooth transition from a difficult situation when he joined renowned heavy metal band **Metallica**, alongside holdovers, from second left, **James Hetfield**, **Lars Ulrich** and **Kirk Hammett**.

Former Suicidal Tendencies bassist Trujillo brings own style to notoriously exacting band

BY GEMMA TARLACH
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

What's it like to be the new guy in the biggest metal band in the known universe? Just ask **Robert Trujillo**, the bassist for **Metallica**.

Trujillo, formerly a member of the band **Suicidal Tendencies**, is **Metallica's** third bassist and perhaps its most unexpected.

Original four-stringer **Cliff Burton** played a tremendous role in establishing the band's sound in the early '80s. Instead of staying in the background, Burton made the bass as much a lead instrument as the guitar.

After **Burton's** death in a 1986 tour bus crash, **Flotsam & Jetsam** bassist **Janis Newstead** was tapped to replace him but rarely was allowed to step out of the long shadow cast by his predecessor.

Newsted left the band in 2001 citing stress and creative constraints, and for more than two years, **Metallica** was bass-less.

It's a period chronicled in "Some Kind of Monster," the acclaimed **Metallica** documentary now in theaters.

In the film, frontman **James Hetfield** and his remaining bandmates, drummer **Lars Ulrich** and guitarist **Kirk Hammett**, try to learn how to get along with the help of performance coach **Phil Towle**.

In the middle of **Metallica's** personal transition from "The Call of Kulu" to "Kumbaya," Trujillo was invited to join the band. The Southern California surfer already had made a name for himself with an aggressive, heavily funk-ed-up style, full of popping and slapping.

Trujillo also had a reputation for a more improvisational approach to bass.

Trujillo's looser style? He'd been notoriously outspoken and demanding. **Metallica** fans accept the new dude? **Metallica** answered all our questions — and revealed **Metallica's** secret funky side — when he chatted with us by phone from his home in **Venice, Calif.**, during a recent break from the road.

Q. What do you bring to **Metallica**?

A. As a performer, physically, technically, I play the way I feel.

Of course, when I'm out there (on stage), I go hard. I give it everything I can. I feed off the music and the fans feed off that. No disrespect, but I'm playing because I'm feeling it, not because I think I have to please that fan over there, or that fan there.

Q. You've known **Metallica** for a long time from the out-

side. What was the biggest eye-opener for you when you joined the band?

A. Obviously the whole performance coach thing. That was my first encounter with guys in years, with the exception of going surfing with **Kirk** a couple times. ... They invited me into the studio and I got to hear the "St. Anger" tracks in their prenatal stage. I would have thought the old, guarded **Metallica** wouldn't have allowed that.

They welcomed me into their world, and I wasn't even part of it at the time. There's this whole mystique about what they're like, you know, the evil **Metallica**. I didn't see that. Actually, at first, not seeing that evil **Metallica** kind of made me uncomfortable.

Q. How does your style square with **Metallica's** exacting expectations?

A. It's a combination. I think he's mellowed out. If he feels something's not right, maybe in the past he'd attack it more aggressively. Now, when we're playing, I can sense if something's not working. He'll look at me, look at the fretboard, look at me, then eventually he'll say something like "Uh, I think it goes this way." ... But when I get the job, I said to myself, leave no room for error.

Q. How is a **Metallica** live performance different than that of your other bands?

A. **Metallica** for me is actually the most physically demanding. The shows are a lot longer than I'm used to, the music is pretty demanding, it's fast, and with a fair amount of movement [around the fretboard]. Also the amount of songs, the catalog they have to work with, we never play the same set night after night.

Combine that with a stage the size of an aircraft carrier, and it's like a workout on a treadmill. It's kind of freaky for the new guy.

When they asked me to join, **Lars** said, "We're like a freight train. When we take off, we go hard and fast and don't stop."

Q. Tell the truth: Before you joined, how funky was **Metallica**?

A. I grew up listening to metal but also to **James Brown**, the **Parliament**. I know when a guy is funky. And **James Hetfield** is funky. I mean that. In the context of, like, **Lynyrd Skynyrd**. There's something really soulful in him. He also plays the drums, so his approach to rhythm guitar is very funky.

I always thought there was a lot of groove in **Metallica**. That's **Metallica's** secret ingredient that they have over other bands. The groove factor that **James** has is the heartbeat of the band.

"I grew up listening to metal but also to James Brown, the Parliament. I know when a guy is funky. And James Hetfield is funky. I mean that."

Robert Trujillo
Metallica bassist

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Q Now that the year is more than half over, do you see any films that are shoo-ins for an Academy Award nomination? — Kathleen Schaffert, Holden, Mass.

A Given the liberal disposition of most Academy members, we expect Michael Moore's Bush-bashing "Fahrenheit 9/11" to be nominated for best picture (it won in Cannes), as well as for directing, writing and cinematography. If that happens, it will be the first documentary nominated in those categories. It also could win for film editing.



Penélope Cruz has moved on after the Cruz/Cruise romance.

Q Has Penélope Cruz found romance since her split with Tom Cruise? — Mike Clark, Allentown, Pa.

A She's been keeping company with Matthew McConaughey, 34, her co-star in the upcoming film "Sahara." Penélope, 30, recently spent a weekend with the actor and nude bongo-drummer in his native Texas, where they went camping and fishing. Funny, the stylish Spanish beauty never struck us as the night-crawler type — but then, love does strange things to people.

Q Is Prince Albert of Monaco gay? If not, why isn't he married? — Leo Patterson, Lincoln, Neb.

A Albert, 46, is straight. He says he's open to marriage but wants it to be a love match so he doesn't end up like Britain's Charles and Diana. On at least one occasion, he chose a bride but couldn't win the approval of his father, Prince Rainier. We predict that Albert will wed after he inherits the throne from Rainier, now 81 and ailing.



Lennon and McCartney in younger, happier times.

Q During his world tour, Paul McCartney hasn't played any John Lennon songs, such as "Imagine" or "Help!" Is Sir Paul still feuding with his dead bandmate? — Jim Wicks, Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.

A Sir Paul, 62, always resented the fact that John received more attention than he did. On his 2002 CD "Back in the U.S.," he even changed the credits on 19 songs from Lennon-McCartney to McCartney-Lennon. Yoko Ono, 71, called it "absurd and petty" and made it clear she'd never approve the change on official Beatles releases. Paul is in a losing battle with the image of a dead icon. Our advice: Get over it, Paul.

Q I like how NBC's "American Dreams" uses today's pop stars to impersonate icons of the past. Do they plan to issue a CD? — Pat Cook, Portland, Ore.

A No, but a DVD is due out Tuesday with expanded segments by past musical guests, including Usher as Marvin Gaye and LeAnn Rimes as Connie Francis. Brandy will impersonate Gladys Knight on this season's premiere, airing stateside on Sept. 26.



Outspoken filmmaker and author Michael Moore could be considered an early favorite for another Academy Award with his incendiary anti-Bush documentary "Fahrenheit 9/11."



Madilyn Sweeten, and her twin brothers, Sawyer and Sullivan Sweeten, have been on TV most of their lives as the children on "Everybody Loves Raymond."

Q I'm impressed by the Sweeten children, who play Ray's kids on "Everybody Loves Raymond." Are there any more at home? — Lin Simpson, Stockton, Calif.

A Yes. Madilyn, 13, and the twins Sullivan and Sawyer, 9. Have a sister Mayssa, 5. But she doesn't want to go into showbiz until she's older — at least 6. All will be looking for work next year, because Ray Romano says this ninth season is definitely the last for his popular sitcom.

Q My friend says that best-selling author Sidney Sheldon also created my favorite TV sitcom, "I Dream of Jeannie." Is that true? — Rhonda Moss, Santa Monica, Calif.

A Yes. Sheldon, 87 — listed in Guinness World Records as "the most translated author in the world" — created not only "I Dream of Jeannie," but also "The Party Duke Show" and "Hart to Hart." His latest novel, "Are You Afraid of the Dark?," is due out Sept. 14.

Q After renting the video of "Deuce Bigalow: Male Gigolo," I have to ask: Did Oded Fehr really bare his own backside in the film? — Judith Callett, Albany, N.Y.

A Yes. Oded, 33, assures us he didn't use a butt double. The Israeli-born actor is baring another Fehr backside these days — performing diaper duty for his son, Atticus, 20 months. By the way, Oded's pants stay on for his next roles: as a Special Ops agent in "Resident Evil: Apocalypse," opening stateside this Friday, and as an Islamic extremist in Showtime's "The Cell," airing next spring.

Q Catherine Bell of "JAG" has a scar on her neck. What's the story? — George Vincent, Portland, Maine

A Catherine, 36, was diagnosed with thyroid cancer at 21 and had surgery to remove the tumor. "I'm living proof that early detection and treatment work," she says. Incidentally, she is now shooting the 10th season of "JAG," TV's longest-running military drama.



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Bryant civil case poses risks for both sides

BY JON SANCHE
The Associated Press

EAGLE, Colo. — In pressing on with her civil suit against NBA star Kobe Bryant, the woman accusing him of rape will not have to meet the higher standard of proof required in a criminal case.

On the other hand, the details of her sex life could come spilling out, along with her medical and psychological records — the very thing she had tried so desperately to avoid in the criminal case.

Legal experts said both sides might be moving toward a settlement to avoid releasing potentially embarrassing or damaging information about not only the 26-year-old accused but the 26-year-old Los Angeles Lakers star.

As in the criminal case, the relevance of the woman's sexual conduct before and after her encounter with Bryant is likely to be the subject of a legal fight. Bryant's lawyers won that fight in the criminal case. In the civil case, U.S. District Judge Richard Matsch will have to decide if the information is relevant, said Mel Hewitt, an Atlanta attorney who has 20 years' experience representing

NBA star, accuser could seek to avoid more embarrassing revelations with settlement

victims of crimes including rape in civil court.

The procedure is almost identical to that under Colorado's rape-shield law, which generally bars defense attorneys from introducing such information unless they prove in a closed-door hearing that it is relevant, Hewitt said.

But Bryant's sexual history also could become evidence. The lawsuit, without elaboration, accuses him of "attempting to commit similar acts of violent sexual assault on females he has just met."

"I would suspect there are some land mines for both sides," said Arthur Hellman, a professor specializing in federal courts and civil procedure at the University of Pittsburgh law school.

"There's such a set of dangers of the material that they would each have to produce, and I would think both sides would have an incentive not to want to have all that get out."

The woman's lawyers filed the

lawsuit in Denver federal court Aug. 10, seeking unspecified damages for pain and suffering they say she has endured since the alleged attack in June 2003 at a Vail-area resort. The suit was filed in federal court because Bryant and his accuser live in different states.

The lawsuit outlines generally the same case against Bryant as prosecutors did that Bryant attacked the woman in his room at the resort where she worked, causing her emotional and physical problems that linger still.

To win the case, the woman's attorneys would have to prove by a "preponderance of the evidence" that Bryant forced himself on the woman and caused physical and emotional injury. This is, they would have to show that it was more likely than not that he committed the offense.

In a criminal case, prosecutors would have had to prove it beyond a reasonable doubt, a more difficult standard.

Damages for pain and suffering and other non-economic losses in Colorado civil cases generally cannot exceed \$733,000, though damages for economic losses and physical impairment or disfigurement are not capped. Punitive damages cannot exceed the compensatory award and can be given only if the allegations are proved beyond a reasonable doubt.

The woman's attorneys, John Clune and Lin Wood, said Wednesday no payment was made to their client and no settlement negotiations have taken place. They were in a meeting Thursday and did not return calls.

In court, Clune told the trial judge his client had decided against testifying and asked prosecutors to drop the rape charges against Bryant because the official release of sealed information — including her name — had destroyed her faith in the justice system.

Yet a civil suit will not give her the same protections she has in

the criminal case: Bryant's attorneys will be able to force her to sit for a deposition where they could ask her a broad range of personal questions, and her medical and psychological records could become fair game because she is seeking damages for emotional distress, pain and suffering.

"Litigation is for those involved in a dispute — it's not a very traumatic and it is almost always better off being resolved than proceeding," said Bill Keating, a veteran Denver attorney who specializes in civil litigation. "So if you look at it from that point of view, there are a lot of good reasons for Bryant, even though he professes not to have done anything, to agree not to make some payment and move on with his life."

Still, he said Bryant is trying to repair his reputation and get new corporate endorsements and might want to risk a trial to win a verdict in his favor.

In a statement Clune said was part of an agreement between his client and Bryant, the NBA star apologized on Wednesday for his behavior and for what she has suffered. Bryant added, however, that the accuser had agreed not to use his statement in the civil case.

San Diego
quarterback
Phillip Rivers
went
13-for-16 for
85 yards and
one
TD and one
interception
on Thursday,
but struggled
against San
Francisco's
first-string
defense.

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The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Drew Brees completed all five of his passes, engineered two touchdowns and drove in one quarter and watched rookie Phillip Rivers struggle until San Francisco put in its back-

NFL roundup

up defenders.

Despite that, Brees hasn't been anointed San Diego's starting quarterback.

Coach Marty Schottenheimer was pleased with both quarterbacks during San Diego's 31-15 victory over San Francisco on Thursday night but wasn't ready to pick a starter for the season opener at Houston on Sept. 12.

"We'll evaluate everything and make a decision Sunday or Monday," Schottenheimer said.

Brees, whose poor play last year contributed to San Diego's decision to acquire Rivers, went 5-for-5 for 71 yards, including a 35-yard TD pass to Eric Parker, and led San Diego to 14 points on three drives.

Rivers, the fourth pick in this year's draft who missed the first two exhibition games in a contract holdout, went 5-for-14 with two interceptions in his debut against Seattle and didn't look any better in the first half against San Francisco.

Rivers had just three pass plays in the half — a sack when he held on to the ball too long, an intentional grounding penalty and an interception.

He settled down, going 8-for-8 for 43 yards on the opening drive of the third quarter. He exploited San Francisco's defense with short throws on a 16-play drive,

capped by rookie Michael Turner's 2-yard run. Rivers completed his first 13 passes after halftime.

The 48ers, who finished the preseason winless for the first time since 1974, saw quarterback Tim Rattay thrive in his first extended action this year. After missing the first two exhibition games with a sore arm, he went 7-for-8 for 101 yards Thursday.

In other games Thursday:

Cardinals 33, Broncos 21: Arizona's Neil Rackers kicked four field goals and Josh McOwn and Sean King combined to complete 14 of 19 passes for the Cardinals in Denver.

Broncos quarterback Danny Kanell regressed after a solid start to the preseason, going 2-for-8 for 24 yards before being replaced in the second quarter.

Seahawks 23, Vikings 21: Trent Diller completed 17 of 20 passes for 211 yards and two first-half touchdowns in Seattle and backup Seneca Wallace led a drive to a touchdown in the second quarter.

Raiders 28, Rams 24: Oakland's Rich Gannon (5-for-8, 45 yards) threw his first touchdown pass of the preseason while teammate Kerry Collins went 5-for-5 for 88 yards and a touchdown in Oakland, Calif.

Buccaners 17, Texans 9: Michael Pittman, who got extensive playing time because the Bucs rested starter Charlie Garcia, ran for 71 yards on 12 carries and Tampa Bay held host Houston to three field goals.

Lions 20, Bills 17: Drew Bledsoe led Buffalo's first-string offense to its only touchdown of the preseason, but three Lions defen-

sive backs were hurt in Detroit.

Safety Brock Marion bruised his right knee but is expected to play in the 12 o'clock game in Chicago. Cornerback Fernando Bryant (neck stinger) and cornerback Rod Babers (shoulder) also left the game with injuries.

Panthers 16, Steelers 13: Rod Rutherford's 57-yard completion to Eugene Baker in the fourth quarter set up John Kasay's third field goal, and visiting Carolina finished its second consecutive unbeaten preseason.

Ravens 27, Giants 17: Baltimore's Kyle Boller threw a touchdown pass and Chris McAllister scored on an interception return at Giants Stadium to lead the Ravens, who got a scare when seven-time Pro Bowl tackle Jonathan Ogden sprained his knee. His status for the season opener is uncertain.

Jaguars 31, Patriots 0: Quinn Gray threw three touchdown passes in the final eight minutes and visiting Jacksonville defeated New England (-3) its third consecutive exhibition loss.

Mike Cloud rushed for 93 yards in the final three minutes and visiting Dallas scored on a 22-yard strike, which rested each of its 22 first-stringers and committed five turnovers.

Cowboys 24, Chiefs 20: In Irving, Texas, Dallas quarterback Vinny Testaverde (four of 10 for 40 yards, one interception) hit nearly as many defensive backs as receivers and running back Eddie George had more carries (nine) than yards (8).

Kansas City's Trent Green completed seven of nine passes for 72 yards and a touchdown on the 50-yarder Todd Collins went 5-for-5 for 104 yards with a 53-yard TD pass.

Krieves helps Kinnick beat Zama in opener

BY DAVE ORNAUER
Stars and Stripes

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — Donovan Nance retrieved the opening kickoff at his own 14. The Zama American Trojans senior speedster zigged to his right — and was met head-on by the newest member of the Nile C. Kinnick Red Devils, senior Adam Krieves, who planted Nance solidly into the turf.

It was one of 14 tackles for Krieves, who helped lead the Red Devils to a 20-6 victory over Zama in the Japan Football League/Kanto Plain Association of Secondary Schools season opener Friday.

Krieves, who transferred to Kinnick from Matthew C. Perry at Iwakuni Marine Corps Air Station, which shut down its program last week, says the best way to get to come for him.

"I could do better," said Krieves, who enrolled at Kinnick on Thursday but had the required 10 practices while at Perry before the team suspended operations. "I just got here two days ago, trying to get used to the area. I know I can do better."

Krieves called his decision to move from Iwakuni to Yokosuka (he has an uncle stationed here) a "difficult one. I had a lot of things going for me at Iwakuni. But I had to make a choice. I love to play football."

The 14 tackles Friday were by far the most on the team, and his teammates and coaches were appreciative.

"He's incredible," said senior back Leonard Lynce, who ran for a pair of touchdowns and had 131 all-purpose yards. "He adds so much depth, intensity and tenacity. He makes us play a whole lot better."

"He makes me look like a heckuva defensive coordinator," Kinnick assistant coach Matt Martensen added. "He has great feet and a nose for the ball."

Krieves' and Lynce's performances highlighted an otherwise lackluster opener, in which the teams combined for 15 penalties for 157 yards and seven turnovers. Kinnick outgained Zama 173-117.

Jarvis Williams got Kinnick on the board with an 18-yard TD run on the Red Devils' first possession. Lynce scored early in the



DAVE ORNAUER/Stars and Stripes

Kinnick junior RB Troy Phelps (22) is tripped up by Zama senior DB Anthony Garcia on Friday at Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan. Kinnick won 20-6.

second and third quarters, on runs of 5 and 43 yards.

"I'm happy because we got the win," Lynce said. "But we could have played a lot better. We had missed assignments, missed alignments, silly penalties. But all that is fixable."

Nance got off the deck to give Zama its only points on a 24-yard fourth-quarter pass from freshman Quentin Howard. Nance had 121 all-purpose yards.

"We have a lot of work to do," said Zama's third-year coach Ron Geist. "We didn't control the line of scrimmage the way I thought we would, and that was the difference in the ballgame."

Local scoreboard

High school football Japan Football League

| | W | L | Pct. | PP | PA |
|------------------|---|---|-------|----|----|
| Nile C. Kinnick | 1 | 0 | 1.000 | 20 | 6 |
| Yokosuka | 0 | 0 | .000 | 0 | 0 |
| Robert D. Edgren | 0 | 0 | .000 | 0 | 0 |
| Zama American | 0 | 1 | .000 | 6 | 20 |

Kanto Plain Association of Secondary Schools

| | W | L | Pct. | PP | PA |
|--------------------------|---|---|-------|----|----|
| Nile C. Kinnick | 1 | 0 | 1.000 | 20 | 6 |
| Yokosuka | 0 | 0 | .000 | 0 | 0 |
| American School in Japan | 0 | 0 | .000 | 0 | 0 |
| Zama American | 0 | 1 | .000 | 6 | 20 |

Friday's game
Nile C. Kinnick 20, Zama American 6
Saturday's game
Robert D. Edgren at Yokosuka 7 p.m.
Zama American at Yokosuka 7 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 11
American School in Japan at Robert D. Edgren, 1 p.m.

Chase for top 10 heads to Calif.

BY MIKE HARRIS
The Associated Press

FONTANA, Calif. — No question that Jamie McMurray is a fine race driver. His math could use a little work.

"I'd say we've got 15 top 10 teams," said McMurray, one of 15 drivers battling for a spot in NASCAR's new "Chase for the Nextel Cup" championship format.

With just two races remaining in what has been dubbed the "Race for the Chase," five drivers are still within striking distance of a top 10 position in the points that would make them eligible for the playoff-style title battle.

The top 10 drivers in the standings after the race next week in Richmond will be the only ones allowed to compete for the season championship over the final 10 races of the season.

Going into Sunday's Pop Secret 500 at California Speedway, the five drivers closest to 10th-place Ryan Newman are bunched within 45 points of that coveted spot. Adding to the danger, Bobby Labonte is just one point ahead of Newman, and eighth-place Kevin Harvick is five points out of 10th.

Even Elliott Sadler, solidly entrenched in seventh, 101 points ahead of Newman, is a little nervous.

"We made up a lot of ground in

the Chase last week at Bristol with a fifth-place run," Sadler said. "I know I didn't win that race, but I sure felt like I did."

"Our goal for this weekend is to maintain our position in the standings and put ourselves in a good position for a solid finish. ... With just two races left until the playoffs, I know I will also be a little more conscious on restarts and try not to put myself in a bad situation."

Sadler still has vivid memories of a flat tire last month at Michigan that cost him dearly in points.

"That's just part of racing," he said. "You can do everything perfect on the good days and still not have the good outcome you expect."

That thought isn't comforting for any driver racing for a top 10 spot.

McMurray, docked 25 points early this season when his team brought a car with an unapproved rear window to Bristol, also has failed to finish six races this season and considers himself lucky to still be in the running for a playoff berth.

"If I could just have 10 points for each of my six DNFs (did not finish), we'd be in the top 10," McMurray said. "It's all about finishing. The points system rewards guys that are consistent. If you can't do that, you don't deserve to be there anyway."

And last year's top rookie figures that isn't going to change at California or Richmond.

"I think it's going to come down to who doesn't have trouble in these next two races," he said. "Of these seven cars from eighth to 15th, someone is going to have trouble. Whoever doesn't is who is going to be in the top 10."

Newman, who fell out of the top 10 last month and has barely managed to get back in, is trying not to put too much heat on himself.

"The points battle is really tight, but we, as a team, don't put any pressure on ourselves," Newman said. "We do all we can every weekend. That's all I can ask of these guys. If we put in a sincere effort, the points will work themselves out."

Jeremy Mayfield, tied with Mark Martin for 12th, just 35 points behind Newman and nine behind teammate Kasey Kahne, is trying to look at the big picture.

"This team is so far ahead of where we were a year ago. If we get in, it's a bonus to all of us," Mayfield said. "If we don't, that means we're going to be hungrier to be in it next year. Either way, there are great things in the future for our team."

That doesn't mean he is conceding anything, though.

"Our goal over the next two races is to get both of our team cars in the top 10. I think we can do it," Mayfield said.

Four PACAF players selected for All-Air Force women's team

The Associated Press

Local briefs

Aug. 24 at Peterson Air Force Base, Colo.

That will also be the site of the All-Air Force tournament, scheduled for Sept. 15-17, which Air Force has won the past two years.

After the tournament, players selected to the All-Air Force team will compete in the Amateur Softball Association Class A national tournament Sept. 24-26 at Shreveport, La.

4 Indianhead soldiers chosen for All-Army rugby tryout camp

Four soldiers 2nd Infantry Division soldiers have been selected to the All-Army rugby tryout camp Oct. 8 to Oct. 17 at Fort Lewis, Wash., Army sports officials announced on Wednesday.

They are: Timothy Wright of Camp Lejeune, Nathan Whitlock of Camp Casey, Christian Skoglund of Camp Stanley and Frankie Cochiasoe of Camp Red Cloud.

They'll vie for berths on the All-Army team slated to play in the All-Air Force tournament Oct. 18-23 at Camp Lejeune, N.C.

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Survive and advance in U.S. Open

Sharapova escapes a close call; No. 7 seed Ferrero eliminated

By BEN WALKER
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Maria Sharapova zinged shots so sharply against Jelena Jankovic, many fans at Louis Armstrong Stadium left their seats early Thursday in hopes of finding a more competitive match.

They missed seeing things get interesting in the U.S. Open.

After breezing through the first seven games, Sharapova started bombing. Soon after that, despite winning a 27-stroke point in the tiebreaker, the Wimbledon champion found herself again in a decisive third set.

But then, a bad omen for Jankovic: For some reason, her name began flickering on the scoreboard lights.

And so did her hopes of an upset, especially when she needed treatment for a recurring left hip strain. Sharapova ramped up and won 15 straight points in winning 6-0, 6-7 (5), 6-1.

"I felt that I could hit any shot from anywhere on the court," the Russian teen said. "That's a good feeling to have when you're in the third set."

Venus Williams got off to a slow start after beating Shikha Uberoi 7-5, 6-1.

U.S. Olympic semifinalists Mardy Fish and Taylor Dent lost on Thursday.

On Friday, Juan Carlos Ferrero's difficult year became more disappointing when the 2003 U.S. Open runner-up

lost to Stefan Koubek 7-6 (2), 4-6, 6-7 (6), 6-2, 6-3 in the second round.

It was a tense match, with Ferrero warned after hitting a ball out of the stadium and then penalized a point for yelling at an official. Ferrero did not shake hands with the chair umpire when he left the court.

Ferrero briefly was No. 1 in 2003, and lost to Andy Roddick in last year's Open final. But the former French Open champion was slowed by chickenpox and bruised ribs this season, dropping him to a No. 7 seeding, and felt pain in his right leg this time.

Amelie Mauresmo showed little of the rust or fatigue displayed in her previous match, easily beating No. 31 Maria Vento-Kabchi of Venezuela 6-2, 6-0 to reach the fourth round.

Patty Schnyder later saved three match points and defeated Daniela Hantuchova 4-6, 4-6, 7-6 (6).

No. 12 Ai Sugiyama joined Mauresmo in the round of 16 by overwhelming Jelena Kostanic of Croatia 6-1, 6-3.

Sugiyama reached the fourth round of the Open for the first time last year, in her 10th appearance. Her next opponent will be No. 8 seed Jennifer Capriati, who defeated Vera Doucheneva 6-0, 6-7 (4), 6-3.

Tommy Haas reassessed himself, beating No. 12 Sebastian Grosjean 6-4, 6-4, 1-6, 6-1. Haas did not play last year

after having two operations on his right shoulder.

Fourth-seeded Lleyton Hewitt, the 2001 Open champion and, defeated Hicham Arazi 7-6 (7), 6-1, 6-2.

In action at night, Open champions Serena Williams and Roddick.

In perhaps the most entertaining match Thursday, Olympic double gold medalist Nicolas Pietrangeli lost to Sargis Sargsian 6-7 (6), 6-3, 3-6, 7-6 (6), 6-4. At 5 hours, 9 minutes, it was the second-longest match by time in Open history — Stefan Edberg beat Michael Chang in a 1992 semifinal that lasted 17 minutes more.

Massu spiked up his match by cracking his racket on a fence and later slamming it on a fence. Chair umpire Carlos Ramos docked Massu a point for his first outburst and penalized him a game in the final set for the tantrum.

"I played for five hours, I fight a lot, at this guy come here, gives me two or three warnings. I accept the first two warnings. If I have to pay something, I accept it. But the third is unbelievable," Massu said. "This guy's unbelievable. He's never going to umpire me again."

Williams' victory made history. For the first time in the U.S. Open, four black women advanced to the third round. Williams joined her sister, Serena, along with Chanda Rubin and 19-year-old wild-card Angela Haynes.

See scores on Page 38.



AP

Wimbledon champion Maria Sharapova, above, won the first seven games against Jelena Jankovic on Thursday before struggling, then pulling away for 6-0, 6-7 (5), 6-1 victory in the second round.

Changes on horizon for backluster U.S. after unsightly World Cup loss to Russia

By BRIAN MURPHY
St. Paul Pioneer Press

ST. PAUL, Minn. — Forget about the ghosts of Nagano and 1998. North America suddenly has become a place of misery for the U.S. hockey team.

Blitzed by a more energetic and better prepared opponent for the second consecutive game, on home ice this time, Team USA coughed up a hairball Thursday night in the form of an ugly 3-1 loss to Russia in a World Cup game at Xcel Energy Center.

Without the saving graces of overburdened goalie Robert Esche, the United States would have been thrashed worse.

The loss left the veteran U.S. team shaken and searching for answers, while coach Ron Wilson vowed wholesale changes to energize a moribund lineup.

Forward Keith Tkachuk, who scored the

U.S. goal and took two ill-timed frustration penalties in the closing minutes, said he was "embarrassed by the way we came out and played this hockey game."

"They came out and just took it to us early," Tkachuk said. "It was very frustrating to see us play the way we did the whole game. It's just not our hockey. We've got to turn this around or else we'll be traveling for the finals."

With two losses, the United States faces a must-win game against Slovakia on Friday night in St. Paul for their salvation, if not their survival.

All eight teams are guaranteed a spot in the playoff round. But the United States is guaranteed to finish behind undefeated Canada in the North American pool standings. Only a victory over Slovakia and a Russian victory over Canada on Saturday in Toronto would keep Team USA from playing its quarterfinal in Toronto.

The Americans vowed to roll out full throttle after sleepwalking through the first 30 minutes of a 2-1 loss to Canada two nights earlier. But the United States found itself backpedaling to a fervent Russian team unwilling to roll over.

The Russians were expected to be a weaker team after a series of high-profile defections thinned their offense and left them without a proven NHL goalie. It hardly mattered as they outshot Team USA 45-21 and received stellar netminding from Ilya Bryzgalov to win their opener.

Alexei Kovalev snapped a 1-1 tie five minutes into the third period with a brilliant effort. With the United States scrambling to catch up to Russia's 3-on-2 break, Kovalev evaded forward Tony Amonte at the left face-off circle to beat down on Esche.

He deked Esche to the ice and snapped the puck just under the crossbar to break



AP

Russian defenseman Sergei Gonchar, top, lands on American forward Brian Rolston during Russia's 3-1 victory on Thursday.

the Americans' will and cement what turned into an easy victory.

Wilson was bedeviled by how his team has started so poorly in its first two games after exhibition games that included a 2-0 victory last week over the Russians. He promised a new lineup for Friday night's game against Slovakia, which bodes well for forwards Jamie Langenbrunner, Bryan Smolinski and Jeff Halpern, as well as defensemen Paul Martin and Ken Klee.

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Smith, No. 2 Utes roster Texas A&M

BY DOUG ALDEN
The Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — Alex Smith was sure Utah justified its first preseason ranking.

Smith overcame some early accuracy problems and threw for three touchdowns, ran for two more and finished with 435 yards of offense to lead the No. 20 Utes past Texas A&M 41-21 Thursday night.

Smith and the Utes backed up their ranking with 582 yards and averaged their only non-conference loss of last season.

Local officials dubbed Thursday "Utah Day" and there were hours of pregame festivities before the Utes took the field. Then, the fun really started.

"If we spread you out like that, it's going to be tough to stop us," said Smith, who passed for a personal-best 359 yards. "It was nice, very nice."

Utah led 7-0 barely a minute into the game and scored the first four touchdowns, despite some early interceptions from Smith.

"That first half could've been scary if we take advantage of all those," Smith said of a handful of overthrown passes and several others that were dropped. "I was a little rattled up. I've been waiting for this game for so long."

Smith, who completed 21 of 29 passes, topped his 340-yard passing performance against Oregon last year. He also ran 13 times for 76 yards.

The Aggies, who last season lost their last three games and ended their last year tied for struggle on defense. Utah scored five times on defensive blunders in which the Utes were all but un-

touched on their way into the end zone.

Texas A&M quarterback Reggie McNeal ran for two touchdowns, including a 59-yarder late in the second quarter, but he struggled throughout the ball.

"Too many drops and too many miscues here and there. They just never let us get going," A&M coach Dennis Franchione said. "The Utes played like they deserved to be in the Top 20."

A&M used 14 freshmen in its first season-opening loss in four years. The last time the Aggies opened with a loss was also the last time they started the season on the road, a 24-10 loss at Notre Dame in 2000.

Utah was not an ideal opponent for a team that went 0-5 last season away from Kyle Field. The Utes lost to the Aggies 28-26 a year ago when a two-point conversion attempt failed in the final seconds. There wasn't talk of revenge as the game approached, but the Utes certainly felt vindicated after winning in front of a sellout crowd of 45,419 at Rice-Eccles Stadium.

I love to see that on national television, with Rice-Eccles packed to the walls and our student section going crazy," Utah Urban Meyer said. "It was a great night for Utah football."

Smith appeared a little anxious at the start. He overthrew three receivers who had a stride or two on the defenders on plays that could have resulted in touchdowns in the first half. Utah receivers dropped at least three passes on the defenders.

Smith also made an errant option pitch behind Marty Johnson, who recovered the ball for a



Utah quarterback Alex Smith (11) is tackled by Texas A&M defensive back Bryant Singleton after a 24-yard gain on a keeper Thursday in Salt Lake City. Smith amassed 435 yards of offense in the Utes' 41-21 victory.

20-yard loss. But with the way A&M's defense was struggling, the Utes could afford some mistakes.

Steve Savoy caught a short pass over the middle and turned it into a 78-yard touchdown 1:13 into the first quarter, then scored easily on an end-around from 9 yards out to start the second quarter.

Smith ran through a wide hole for a 7-yard TD and had a 38-yard scoring pass to John Madsen, who didn't have an A&M player within 10 yards when he pulled down the pass and trotted down the sideline. Smith also scored on a 37-yard run.

Johnson, playing for the first time in two years because of injuries and a one-year suspension for drunk driving, gained 77 yards on 20 carries for the Utes.

Terrence Murphy caught eight passes for 116 yards and became A&M's career leader in receptions, passing Bethel Johnson's mark of 117. Murphy has 124 career receptions.

10 games and dreamed of busting into the Bowl Championship Series, they did just enough to win. TCU won five games by a field goal and also had a 62-55 victory in 2003.

"You know what to expect when you get in that situation, but don't want it to happen every game," defensive end Ramon Ray said.

"This three-point thing, it kills you. It's bad on the nerves," defensive tackle Anthony Alabi said. "But I'd be better than 0-1."

Tye Gunn (career highs 20-for-38 passing for 368 yards and four TDs) and Lonta Hobbs (143 yards rushing, two TDs) made impressive comeback touchdowns from injuries last year.

Gunn is 9-0 as TCU's starter, the best record among active I-A quarterbacks after winning four games in each of two injury-plagued seasons. Patterson this week chose him ahead of Brandon Hassell, who was 7-2 with 2,039 yards passing when Gunn was out with a separated right shoulder and then a groin injury.

Patterson matched his 2003 season total with four TDs, the last 8 yards to Shaun Herbert with nine seconds left in regulation. He had

six straight completions, the first a 20-yarder on fourth and 3 during the tying drive.

Northwestern had two 100-yard receivers for the first time in six years: Jonathan Fields (eight catches, 202 yards, three TDs) and Mark Philmore (12 for 131).

Reggie Harrell, TCU's first 1,000-yard receiver last season, caught five passes for 95 yards and two scores.

"I told them, we can correct mistakes at this stage in the game. But I'm sure you can add character," Northwestern coach Randy Walker said. "We have a team that's full of character. We'll be all right."

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Rough start for Price as UTEP's head coach

BY MEL REISNER
The Associated Press

TEMPE, Ariz. — Mike Price had one ordeal just trying to find a job. His coaching debut at UTEP turned out to be another.

"Our expectation was to win the game, and we certainly didn't do that," Price said after watching Arizona State rout the Miners 41-9 Thursday night.

"We were beaten soundly. I'm disappointed because the players have done everything that I've asked them to do."

Price landed in El Paso after being dismissed by Alabama for questionable conduct after a night of heavy drinking and partying at a strip club in Florida in August 2003.

UTEP, which had won only six games in three previous seasons, took a chance on the 1997 national coach of the year.

Price said his instincts may have been rusty after a year away from Washington State, but he didn't feel the national attention directed at his return was a distraction.

"They seemed very, very fo-

cused and they gave it a good effort," he said. "They didn't play great, but they gave it a good effort."

Price took over a 2-11 team, and the result was predictable against the Sun Devils, who returned 47 lettermen anxious to forget last year's 5-7 record.

The Sun Devils' Andrew Walter threw three touchdown passes and Edmond Franklin scored on one of his two interceptions.

One bright spot for the Miners was Jordan Palmer's 37-yard completion to Johnnie Lee Higgins Jr. That set up a 12-yard scoring run by Howard Jackson with 1:49 left in the second quarter and cut Arizona State's lead to 24-6.

Walter, the only Sun Devils quarterback to have two 3,000-yard seasons, was mediocre on the standards — 18-for-37 for 241 yards. He had TD passes of 34 yards to Terry Richardson, 2 yards to Brent Miller and 15 yards to Derek Hagan.

Sharp at the start, Walter looked flat in the third quarter and didn't play in the fourth.

Reyes: Running back's success hasn't translated into wins

REYES, FROM BACK PAGE

Reyes' success has not led to as many victories as he would like over the past two seasons. Syracuse struggled to 4-8 last year, and finished 6-6 two years ago, the two worst seasons in the 14-year tenure of Pasqualoni.

Pasqualoni is counting heavily on both Reyes and his backfield partner, Damien Rhodes, to lead the Orange back this season. As for the hype over the Heisman, that will remain low-key if it doesn't quickly disappear.

"We're not going to give it more priority than we should," Pasqualoni said.

"I'd love him to win the Heis-

man, but I think the most important thing is if the team wins and has great success. As long as we keep winning, then that [Heisman talk] will keep going. If we don't win, then that goes out the window."

Reyes is keenly aware of his accomplishments and what his legacy will be when he leaves Syracuse. He harbors no illusions about where he fits in among his predecessors, though.

"Even if I, as far as yards and touchdowns, pass them, when I leave here I still think Ernie Davis, Jim Brown, Floyd Little, Larry Conka, and Joe Morris are ahead of me," Reyes said.

"I just have so much respect for those guys."

Frogs do just enough to win

BY STEPHEN HAWKINS
The Associated Press

FORT WORTH, Texas — The defensive mind of TCU coach Gary Patterson just wouldn't let him enjoy the victory. Not after the Horned Frogs gave up 637 yards and 14-point leads three times.

Still, he'll take the result: a double-overtime 48-45 victory over Northwestern in the opener that ended early Friday morning.

"We didn't play well on that side of the ball. I'm not going to make any excuses," said Patterson, the defensive coordinator becoming coach.

"The bottom line is we found a way to win against a Big Ten team."

Barely, and with a lot of help. Northwestern ran 100 plays and Brett Bazzano set a school record with 513 yards on 39-for-62 passing. But Brian Huffman missed five field goal attempts, two in or near the end.

"Whatever we or I did, how many yards we had, we were short there at the end," Bazzano said. "As an offense, you don't have a good day unless you win."

Like the Frogs did so often last season when they won their first

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Mayorga's arrest jeopardizes Trinidad bout

The Associated Press

MANAGUA, Nicaragua — Former world champion Ricardo Mayorga was arrested Friday on suspicion of rape, and says he is uncertain about the status of his Oct. 2 middleweight bout in New York against Felix Trinidad.

Mayorga was arrested at Managua's international airport after a complaint was filed Wednesday by a 20-year-old woman who said the boxer had invited her to a hotel, beat her and sexually abused her, police spokesman Marlon Montano said.

Speaking to The Associated Press at a police station where he was innocent, Mayorga said he had been innocent.

"I had a normal relationship with her and the hotel employees are witnesses that she was happy when she left the hotel. I gave her two bills of 500 cordobas (about \$30 each) and we said goodbye," said Mayorga.

Asked about his bout with Trinidad at Madison Square Garden, Mayorga said, "I think that it was suspended and Trinidad will fight somebody else, but I'm not sure."

However, the Madison Square Garden Web site shows the fight is still scheduled.

Mayorga's attorney, Sergio Morales, said he would seek an injunction allowing his client to travel to the United States. He maintained Mayorga's arrest was

Sports briefs

illegal because a warrant that authorized it had expired.

Morales said his client had been trying to catch a flight to the United States to continue training for the fight against Trinidad.

The bout was to be first fight after a two-year retirement for Trinidad, a 31-year-old former welterweight, junior middleweight and middleweight champion.

Second Cubs-Marlins game postponed because of Frances

MIAMI — The Florida Marlins postponed Saturday's game against the Chicago Cubs as Hurricane Frances moved closer to the eastern coast of Florida.

The Marlins already had postponed Friday night's game against the Cubs. No makeup dates have been scheduled, and the Marlins were waiting until Saturday to decide whether to delay the third game of the series Sunday.

Cowboys put Woodson on PUP, Peterson on IR; cut K Bryant

IRVING, Texas — The Dallas Cowboys put safety Darren Woodson on the physically unable to perform list Friday, meaning he'll miss at least the first five games

of the season.

Woodson had a herniated disc removed from his back in July.

Six weeks later, he's still unable to lift heavy weights and isn't ready to practice.

Going on the so-called "PUP" list means he can't be activated until after the sixth week. Dallas has its bye week during that span so it's only a five-game stretch. The Cowboys would then have a five-week window to try getting him onto the roster.

The Cowboys also put rookie offensive lineman Stephen Peterson on injured reserve, knocking him out for the entire year, and they waived kicker Matt Bryant, receiver Zurlie Smith and defensive lineman Ryan Wynn.

With the roster down to 63 players, Dallas still must clear 10 spots by Sunday's league-mandated deadline.

Packers trade safety Anderson to Oakland

Green Bay traded strong safety Marques Anderson to the Oakland Raiders for two 2005 draft picks on Friday.

The Packers will get a fifth- and a sixth-round pick for Anderson, Green Bay coach and general manager Mike Sherman said.

Anderson told The Associated Press from Nashville, where the Packers were to play Tennessee in their exhibition finale on Fri-

day night, that Raiders senior personnel executive Michael Lombardi told him he'd get a chance to start because of an injury to strong safety Derrick Gibson.

Hamilton Jr. replaces Craven

FONTANA, Calif. — Bobby Hamilton Jr. will replace Ricky Craven in the No. 32 PPI Motorsports car beginning with Sunday's NASCAR Nextel Cup race at California Speedway.

It was announced in July that Hamilton, the son of a longtime NASCAR competitor Bobby Hamilton, would take over Craven's ride in 2005, but team owner Cal Wells III said Thursday that Craven has stepped aside.

Wells said Craven, who has driven for the PPI team since 2001, will be at the wheel of the No. 32 once more, in the race Sept. 19 at New Hampshire International Speedway. Craven is from Newburgh, Maine.

Garcia ahead in Euro Masters

CRANS-SUR-SIERRE, Switzerland — Sergio Garcia birdied the last four holes and shot 6-under 65 Friday, giving him a one-shot lead over fellow Spaniard and Ryder Cup teammate Miguel Angel Jimenez after two rounds of the European Masters.

Garcia was at 11-under 131, with Jimenez (67) at 132. Luke Donald, the third member of the

European Ryder Cup team playing in the event, shot 67. He was three strokes back with South Africa's Charl Schwartzel (66). Two-time champion Eduardo Romero was in a group four strokes behind, with defending champion Ernie Els five off the pace after a 67.

Kim leads LPGA event in Illinois

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — Christina Kim made 11 birdies and tied the tournament record of 10-under 62 Thursday for a two-shot lead after the opening round of the LPGA State Farm Classic.

Rookie Mikaela Paerlmid of Sweden shot a career-best 8-under 64 and was alone in second. Laura Diaz shot 7-under 65.

Report: Rockets, Mutombo close to deal

HOUSTON — The Houston Rockets are close to a deal that would add veteran center Dikembe Mutombo as the backup to Yao Ming, a television station reported Thursday.

The Rockets would send Eric Piatkowski, Adrian Griffin and Mike Wilks to the Chicago Bulls, Houston television station KRIV said in a report citing anonymous NBA sources.

The deal, which could be done as early as next week, needs the approval of Bulls ownership and the NBA, the station said.

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Major League Baseball statistics

Through Sept. 2

American League

| Team | AB | R | HR | RBI | Avg |
|-------------|------|----|-----|-----|------|
| Anaheim | 4916 | 65 | 154 | 120 | .261 |
| Boston | 4665 | 95 | 136 | 107 | .261 |
| Cleveland | 4751 | 74 | 133 | 104 | .261 |
| Detroit | 4783 | 74 | 133 | 104 | .261 |
| Los Angeles | 4776 | 67 | 126 | 97 | .261 |
| Oakland | 4776 | 67 | 126 | 97 | .261 |
| Texas | 4716 | 69 | 126 | 107 | .261 |
| New York | 4554 | 55 | 118 | 107 | .261 |
| Seattle | 4631 | 60 | 120 | 104 | .261 |
| Chicago | 4631 | 60 | 120 | 104 | .261 |
| Minnesota | 4623 | 56 | 116 | 96 | .261 |
| Toronto | 4607 | 60 | 122 | 114 | .261 |
| Kansas City | 4591 | 57 | 112 | 98 | .261 |
| Tampa Bay | 4508 | 57 | 112 | 98 | .261 |

| Team | AB | R | HR | RBI | Avg |
|-----------|-----|-----|----|-----|------|
| Suzuki | 580 | 85 | 12 | 52 | .374 |
| Mora | 460 | 105 | 17 | 64 | .374 |
| Rodriguez | 462 | 123 | 17 | 74 | .374 |
| Guerrero | 458 | 105 | 17 | 64 | .374 |
| Duran | 458 | 105 | 17 | 64 | .374 |
| Ortiz | 458 | 105 | 17 | 64 | .374 |
| Escobar | 458 | 105 | 17 | 64 | .374 |
| Reyes | 458 | 105 | 17 | 64 | .374 |
| Alfonso | 458 | 105 | 17 | 64 | .374 |
| Alfonso | 458 | 105 | 17 | 64 | .374 |

National League

| Team | AB | R | HR | RBI | Avg |
|--------------|------|----|-----|-----|------|
| St. Louis | 4567 | 76 | 126 | 104 | .261 |
| Atlanta | 4557 | 76 | 126 | 104 | .261 |
| Colorado | 4557 | 76 | 126 | 104 | .261 |
| San Diego | 4557 | 76 | 126 | 104 | .261 |
| Chicago | 4557 | 76 | 126 | 104 | .261 |
| Houston | 4557 | 76 | 126 | 104 | .261 |
| Los Angeles | 4557 | 76 | 126 | 104 | .261 |
| Philadelphia | 4557 | 76 | 126 | 104 | .261 |
| New York | 4557 | 76 | 126 | 104 | .261 |
| Montreal | 4557 | 76 | 126 | 104 | .261 |

Individual batting

| Player | AB | R | HR | RBI | Avg |
|--------------|------|----|-----|-----|------|
| St. Louis | 4567 | 76 | 126 | 104 | .261 |
| Atlanta | 4557 | 76 | 126 | 104 | .261 |
| Colorado | 4557 | 76 | 126 | 104 | .261 |
| San Diego | 4557 | 76 | 126 | 104 | .261 |
| Chicago | 4557 | 76 | 126 | 104 | .261 |
| Houston | 4557 | 76 | 126 | 104 | .261 |
| Los Angeles | 4557 | 76 | 126 | 104 | .261 |
| Philadelphia | 4557 | 76 | 126 | 104 | .261 |
| New York | 4557 | 76 | 126 | 104 | .261 |
| Montreal | 4557 | 76 | 126 | 104 | .261 |

Individual pitching

| Player | IP | ER | BB | SO | SV | ERA |
|--------------|-----|-----|----|----|----|------|
| St. Louis | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Atlanta | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Colorado | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| San Diego | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Chicago | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Houston | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Los Angeles | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Philadelphia | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| New York | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Montreal | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |

Individual pitching

| Player | IP | ER | BB | SO | SV | ERA |
|--------------|-----|-----|----|----|----|------|
| St. Louis | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Atlanta | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Colorado | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| San Diego | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Chicago | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Houston | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Los Angeles | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Philadelphia | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| New York | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Montreal | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |

Individual pitching

| Player | IP | ER | BB | SO | SV | ERA |
|--------------|-----|-----|----|----|----|------|
| St. Louis | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Atlanta | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Colorado | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| San Diego | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Chicago | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Houston | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Los Angeles | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Philadelphia | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| New York | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Montreal | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |

Individual pitching

| Player | IP | ER | BB | SO | SV | ERA |
|--------------|-----|-----|----|----|----|------|
| St. Louis | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Atlanta | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Colorado | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| San Diego | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Chicago | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Houston | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Los Angeles | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Philadelphia | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| New York | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Montreal | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |

Individual pitching

| Player | IP | ER | BB | SO | SV | ERA |
|--------------|-----|-----|----|----|----|------|
| St. Louis | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Atlanta | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Colorado | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| San Diego | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Chicago | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Houston | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Los Angeles | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Philadelphia | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| New York | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Montreal | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |

Individual pitching

| Player | IP | ER | BB | SO | SV | ERA |
|--------------|-----|-----|----|----|----|------|
| St. Louis | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Atlanta | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
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Individual pitching

| Player | IP | ER | BB | SO | SV | ERA |
|--------------|-----|-----|----|----|----|------|
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| Atlanta | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
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| Player | IP | ER | BB | SO | SV | ERA |
|--------------|-----|-----|----|----|----|------|
| St. Louis | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Atlanta | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Colorado | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| San Diego | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Chicago | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Houston | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Los Angeles | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Philadelphia | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| New York | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Montreal | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |

Individual pitching

| Player | IP | ER | BB | SO | SV | ERA |
|--------------|-----|-----|----|----|----|------|
| St. Louis | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Atlanta | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Colorado | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| San Diego | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Chicago | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Houston | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Los Angeles | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Philadelphia | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| New York | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Montreal | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |

Individual pitching

| Player | IP | ER | BB | SO | SV | ERA |
|--------------|-----|-----|----|----|----|------|
| St. Louis | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Atlanta | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Colorado | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| San Diego | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Chicago | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Houston | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Los Angeles | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
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| New York | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Montreal | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |

Individual pitching

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|--------------|-----|-----|----|----|----|------|
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| Atlanta | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Colorado | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| San Diego | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Chicago | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Houston | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Los Angeles | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Philadelphia | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| New York | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Montreal | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |

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| Player | IP | ER | BB | SO | SV | ERA |
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| Atlanta | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
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| Houston | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Los Angeles | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Philadelphia | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| New York | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
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| Colorado | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| San Diego | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Chicago | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Houston | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Los Angeles | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Philadelphia | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| New York | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |
| Montreal | 143 | 172 | 17 | 74 | 10 | 4.46 |

Individual pitching

Boston takes control of wild-card race

The Associated Press

BOSTON — The surging Boston Red Sox have seized control of the AL wild-card race — with an eye on winning their division.

Derek Lowe (13-10) pitched effectively into the eighth inning and Boston completed a three-game sweep of the Anaheim Angels with a 4-3 victory Thursday night — the Red Sox's season-high ninth straight win.

The Red Sox moved 4½ games ahead of the Angels in the wild-card chase and remained 3½ behind the AL East-leading New York Yankees.

"This is a special run that we are going on," Lowe said. "Especially this time of year, we are getting clutch hits, the defense was phenomenal. We're having fun."

So are the Minnesota Twins, who beat the Texas Rangers 2-0 and took a nine-game lead in the AL Central.

Brad Radke (10-7) had a season-high nine strikeouts in eight innings to give Minnesota a three-game sweep. Joe Nathan threw a perfect ninth for his 37th save, completing the five-hitter as the Twins took their largest division lead of the season.

Not bad for a team that was on the brink of contraction three years ago, but is now poised for a third straight division title.

"I hate to be cocky, but if we lose this lead right here I don't think we should have a team," outfielder Torii Hunter said.

At Boston, Bill Mueller homered off Bartolo Colon (13-11) and the Red Sox completed a three-game sweep with their 15th win in 16 games.

Texas, third in the wild-card standings, comes to Boston for a three-game series beginning Friday night. Boston is looking for its



Boston center fielder Johnny Damon gets a face full of dirt as he slides back in time under a tag by Anaheim Angels first baseman Darin Erstad during the second inning in Boston on Thursday. The Red Sox won 4-3.

first 10-game winning streak in over 11 years, last done in July 1993.

"It says that we're playing pretty well right now," said outfielder Johnny Damon, who went 3-for-4 with an RBI.

"We have another tough team coming in to Texas. We just have to keep playing tough."

Boston has won 10 straight at Fenway Park and is 7-0 on its 10-game homestand. The Red Sox have swept their past three series at home. The last time that happened was April 19-May 4, 1994.

Lowe allowed runs in each of the first three innings but recovered to pitch 7½ innings, giving up three runs and seven hits. Keith Foulke got four outs for his 26th save.

Colon allowed four runs and 10 hits in 4½ innings for the Angels, who fell four games behind AL West-leading Oakland.

"I say, they played great baseball for three days," Anaheim manager Mike Scioscia said.

"We couldn't match it."

In other AL games Thursday:

Twins 2, Rangers 0: At Minneapolis, Radke had the Rangers off

balance all night. He allowed five hits and walked one in Minnesota's seventh shutout.

"This is when teams make themselves or break themselves," manager Ron Gardenhire said. "We have to come out with some intensity now and finish this thing off."

Kenny Rogers (15-7) allowed just one run in six-plus innings, but Texas tied a season high with its fourth straight loss and fell 5½ games behind first-place Oakland in the AL West.

"When you lose three in a row and the teams you're chasing win all three, it hurts and makes the

hill harder to climb," Rogers said. "But, by no means is it over."

Yankees 9, Indians 1: Gary Sheffield had three RBIs to reach 100 for the seventh time, Alex Rodriguez hit a three-run homer, and Jon Lieber (10-8) pitched seven shutout innings at Yankee Stadium.

Steve Karsay, sidelined since the end of the 2002 season with back and shoulder injuries that needed operations, allowed a home run in the ninth on his first pitch to Victor Martinez, who reached 100 RBIs for the first time. Karsay then struck out Travis Hafner and Casey Blake, and retired Ben Broussard on a popout.

Athletics 4, White Sox 2: Mark Redman (10-10) pitched seven strong innings, and Billy McMillon homered off Jose Contreras (12-7) for visiting Oakland.

Redman became the fourth A's pitcher to reach double digits in wins, allowing four hits and two runs, and AL West-leading Oakland won for the 14th time in 16 games.

Blue Jays 8, Mariners 6: Ichiro Suzuki got three more hits, but Orlando Hudson and Vernon Wells homered to lead homecoming Toronto to victory.

Suzuki, chasing George Sisler's major league record for hits in a season, went 3-for-5 and has 217 hits. He has 28 games left to break Sisler's mark of 257 hits, set in 1920 with the St. Louis Browns.

Orioles 13, Devil Rays 2: At St. Petersburg, Fla., Miguel Tejada drove in three runs, and Erik Bedard (6-9) pitched seven impressive innings for Baltimore.

Tejada increased his AL-leading total to 121 RBIs for the Orioles, who have won four straight following a 1-2 game losing streak. They finished their first three-game sweep of the Devil Rays, who lost their sixth in a row.

Powerhouse Cardinals complete sweep of Padres

The Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — The St. Louis Cardinals have powered their way to the best record in baseball, and their manager has a stern warning for the rest of the majors.

"Our best baseball is ahead of us," Cardinals manager Tony La Russa said. "I really believe that."

Albert Pujols and Jim Edmonds homered in the first, Jeff Suppan (14-6) won his fifth straight start, and the Cardinals completed a three-game sweep of the San Diego Padres with a 7-2 victory Thursday night.

"They outgassed us by far," Padres manager Bruce Bochy said. "But they're outgassing everybody. Look at their lineup and there's nobody in our league that matches up with them."

Pujols and Edmonds each homered three times in the series for



the Cardinals (89-44). Pujols was 4-for-4 with two RBIs, 8-for-12 with six RBIs in the series and has homered in four straight games.

"He is incredible," La Russa said.

Pujols' 43rd homer matched his career best last season, and Edmonds gave the Cardinals three 100-RBI men for the second time in franchise history. Scott Rolen leads the NL with 116 RBIs. Pujols has 106 and Edmonds 100 after Pujols, Rolen and Edgar Renteria reached triple-digits last year.

Larry Walker added a homer in the seventh inning for the Cardinals, who are 33-6 against the Padres the past six seasons — 19-2 at home — and have swept them at least once each year.

Suppan topped his previous career best for victories set last year and tied Matt Morris and Chris Carpenter for the staff lead this season. In six-plus innings, he allowed two runs and seven hits. Suppan also got his third hit in 48 at-bats this season.

Jake Peavy (11-4) lasted six innings, but lost for the first time since July 7 to Houston.

It was a major blow to the Padres, who are two games behind the Cubs in the NL wild-card race heading into a six-game homestand.

"We knew coming in here, we had to play our best ball, and we didn't do it," Bochy said. "We need to regroup and head home."

In other NL games Thursday:

Dodgers 8, Diamondbacks 4: At Phoenix, Adrian Beltre hit his 43rd homer and Milton Bradley, who'll leave the team briefly following the death of his grandfa-

ther, doubled in the go-ahead run off Shane Lince (1-1) in the eighth inning.

Yency Brazoban (1-0) gave up a run in two innings — on Scott Hairston's eighth-inning homer — and got his first major league victory. Eric Gagne got two outs for his 37th save.

Rockies 6, Giants 5: Vinny Castilla hit a two-run homer, Matt Holliday drove in two runs, and visiting Colorado beat Jason Schmidt.

Joe Kennedy (7-6) allowed five runs and nine hits in 7½ innings as the Rockies won their second straight following a season-high eight-game losing streak.

Schmidt (15-6) allowed six runs for the second consecutive game in 4½ innings as the Giants fell 1½ games behind Chicago in the wild-card race.

Marlins 9, Mets 6: Carl Pa-

vano (16-5) moved into a tie for the NL lead in wins, helping visiting Florida gain ground in the wild-card race — 2½ games behind Chicago.

Damon Easley and Juan Encarnacion each drove in three runs for the Marlins, who swept the four-game series and have won seven in a row.

"They'll have to wait at least a couple days to get back on the field, though, because Friday night's series opener against the Cubs was postponed because of Hurricane Frances."

Rookie David Wright homered twice for the Mets, who have lost six straight and 11 of 12, ending their homestand 1-10.

Brewers 7, Pirates 1: At Milwaukee, Ben Sheets (10-10) threw a four-hitter for his first win since the All-Star break. Bill Hall homered and drove in four runs, and the Brewers salvaged a split of their four-game series.

SPORTS



Drivers head to California Speedway with two races remaining to get into Chase for the Cup, Page 40

Reyes for Heisman?

With a chance for third straight 1,000-yard season, Syracuse running back's candidacy not a stretch

BY JOHN KEKIS
The Associated Press

Walter Reyes shrugged at the question: Would he give up his No. 39 and wear Syracuse's famed No. 44 if coach Paul Pasqualoni offers?

"It's going to be a hard decision," said Reyes, who enters his senior year at Syracuse with the chance to become the first running back in school history to have three consecutive 1,000-yard seasons. "When I first came here I always said I wanted to make a number for myself, even though 39 also was worn by the great Larry Csonka. But when you talk about No. 44, it's the most prestigious number in Syracuse history, so that's a lot of pressure."

Indeed, Jim Brown, Floyd Little, and Ernie Davis, the only Syracuse player to win the Heisman Trophy (1961), each wore it with great distinction. Nobody has donned it since Rob Konrad in 1998.

Reyes seems equal to the challenge if it's presented.

Reyes, who runs low and uses his impressive power, acceleration, cutting ability and breakaway speed to befuddle defenders, is coming off one of the most productive seasons in Syracuse history.

In 2003, he ran for 1,347 yards (the second-best total in school history behind Joe Morris's 1,372 yards in 1979) and a school-record 20 touchdowns, averaging 5.3 yards per carry. And this year he's being promoted by the university for the Heisman Trophy as the Orange prepare to open the season at No. 24 Purdue on Sunday.

"It's a great preseason honor, but we still have 11 games to play, so you can't get too caught up in the preseason stuff," said the 5-foot-10, 213-pound Reyes, who struck a Heisman pose for the Syracuse fans after rushing for 241 yards and four TDs last season against Central Florida. "When I first heard about it in July, that's when I thought about it. Now, I don't even think about it when I'm practicing."

He does when he uses his cell phone.

"When I flip it open, I have the Heisman Trophy as my screen."

"So maybe I lied," Reyes said, laughing.

Reyes, who ran for five touchdowns in a season-ending victory

over Notre Dame last December, also was the Orange's second-leading receiver with 38 catches for 375 yards and one touchdown. His 1,732 all-purpose yards were the third-highest total in school history.

Reyes already holds the Syracuse career rushing touchdown mark with 38. He also ranks seventh with 2,621 career rushing yards but needs just 314 yards to move past Csonka into second place. Morris, the only other Syracuse back to have three 1,000-yard seasons, sits atop the list with 4,299 yards.

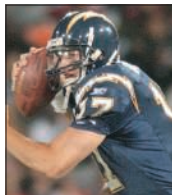
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Ninth straight win puts Red Sox 4½ ahead of Angels in AL wild-card race; Cardinals continue NL power trip

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Schottenheimer still not ready to select starter in Chargers QB competition

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Nile C. Kinnick takes down Zama in Japan football opener

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Walter Reyes has a chance to become the first running back to have three straight 1,000-yard seasons at Syracuse, a school which boasts back field alumni Larry Csonka, Jim Brown, and 1961 Heisman Trophy winner Ernie Davis.

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